



BACK TO SCHOOL

TWO GST FREE WEEKENDS



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As per a Cabinet Brief, "In partial fulfilment of Plan Belize 2.0 Cabinet has declared the weekends of July 31st and August 15th as GST Free Back to School weekends. This means that no GST will be charged on goods purchased on Thursday, 31st July to Saturday, 2nd August 2025, and Friday, 15th August to Sunday, 17th August 2025." These NEW free-GST weekends are similar to the Christmas free-GST weekends. Belizeans can now hold off the Melchor and Chetumal trips to get real deals in Belize as they purchase their school supplies and whatever their hearts and wallets wish to afford. Stay tune for the finer details as they are published.

Toledo East - Land & Housing | Volleyball Silver for CA Males
Energy Independence | Summer Camps | Dibs on UDP ashes

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Fight Against Crime Continues

- COMPSTAT: Crime Numbers Down
- 13th Amendment Consultations Begin



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CDB's Basic Needs Trust
\$10M Grant for Poverty Reduction
& Human Development



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NEW Women's Commission



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Back2School GST-free: Jul 31 to Aug 2 & Aug 15-17

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Belizeans arguably have much more purchasing power today than at any point in their lives. Such is the economy under planBelize 2.0. The people will once more get the opportunity to pinch directly at the cost of living with two GST-free weekends aimed directly in helping parents more easily afford the education of their children and then everyone else of course. For education, add this to the 23 secondary schools with Free Education via the Educational Upliftment Programme, to the Healthy Start feeding programme, to paying of 100 percent of all teacher’s salaries, to recent commitments to salary raises, to the unfreezing of increments, to the teacher allowances, to in-Service scholarships to teachers, to Free Internet to Schools, to new classrooms built every year and there is a direct curbing of the cost of living. Knowledge of all this would tag protest marches as unfair. Nevertheless, PM John Briceño will always fight for the right of teachers and workers to protest without fear of reprisals. I digress to the GST-free weekends.

The Christmas GST free 2024 was a surprise for everyone...believers of Christmas and the nonbelievers. This Back to School GST free was announced from months back in unofficial campaigns and in official Sitzings of the House speeches and now it will be put to action. Most of us are aware that when we buy in Belize items have a 12.5 per cent added automatically which goes to the Government for use in salaries, infrastructure, services and Government local and international commitments. A few staple items are zero-rated and thus government collects nothing on them. The Christmas 2024 GST-free did not apply to purchases of motor vehicles, gasoline, LPG, diesel, firearms, ammunition, cigarettes, and alcoholic beverages but again let’s wait for the details.

In Belize City, Orange Walk and other municipalities already have Super Sales, Fiestarama and other events that are now expected to be GST-free plus discounts. This usually means items will be much cheaper than before. This Back to School Free GST is nothing short of a Belizean Bonanza planBelize 2.0 style for ALL. Everyone can plan!! Stretch your purchasing power!!



WOMEN REAL EMPOWERMENT

The John Briceño led People’s United Party has a policy or commitment to increase the participation of women in politics. One such commitment is the aim of having a minimum of one third (1/3 or 33%) representation at various levels. This policy aligns with broader national and international goals to promote gender equality and to address the underrepresentation of women in decision-making roles. Prime Minister Briceño has gone on record numerous times and stated his goal as leader of the PUP to increase the number of women in leadership positions.

A clear indication of this objective is his appointment of women to key roles in Government, from the Governor General, to the Chief Justice, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, President of the Senate and Clerk of the National Assembly, all women.

The United Women’s group of the People’s United Party has embraced our visionary leader’s vision and works arduously to increase the number of women in politics. In the 2024 Municipal elections, driven mainly by support granted to women candidates by the UWG led by its president Ms. Osiely Mendez of Orange Walk Central, 18 of the 61 seats won by the party were women. This represents roughly 30%, 3% short of the targeted goal.

In the 2025 village council elections, the 1,104 elected PUP members were analysed. The Party is proud to report the following: Of the 158 villages won, 37 Chairpersons and 336 members are women. In total we have 373 women elected which is equivalent to 33.79% of all PUP elected. Right in line with our mandate. For the first time in our electoral history in Belize, a major political party has achieved its goal of 1/3 women representation.

The goal of leading the nation with the most efficient team is there and women are slowly proving to be most prepared and definitely ready to lead in areas where they had not before. The leadership of the PUP is on record that they will give women their place at the decision making table. The onus is on everyone to make sure that our party is successful in making Belize progress. With more women in real empowerment positions, the success of the PUP and Belize should see an easier pathway as innovation and change is guaranteed. For the PUP, women empowerment is not only a banner it is our very nature. Everybody fih win, todos ganamos...remember that?

Basic Needs Trust Fund Eleventh Programme Boosted by US\$5,194,000 Grant BSIF - CDB

July 15, 2025 - The Ministry of Economic Transformation is pleased to announce the approval and forthcoming implementation of the Basic Needs Trust Fund (BNTF) Eleventh Programme in Belize. The programme, which will be executed by the Belize Social Investment Fund (BSIF), is made possible through a grant of US\$5,194,000 from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) under its Special Funds Resources.

The grant was approved by the CDB Board of Directors during its 310th Meeting held on June 9, 2025, and formally communicated to the Government of Belize on July 9, 2025. This funding marks a continuation of CDB’s long-standing support for poverty reduction and human development in the region, with this phase focusing on sustainable improvements to infrastructure and livelihoods across Belize.

The BNTF 11 Programme seeks to reduce poverty and improve the living conditions of residents in low-income and vulnerable communities throughout the country. Key areas of investment will include:

Quality education and training | Water and sanitation systems | Community access and drainage | Livelihood enhancement | Human resource development services

Implementation of the programme will be guided by a strong framework of transparency, environmental and social safeguards, and robust monitoring and evaluation mechanisms. BSIF, the executing agency, will collaborate closely with the Ministry of Economic Transformation and other national stakeholders to ensure the effective and efficient rollout of the programme’s components.

This significant investment in our communities underscores the Government of Belize’s continued commitment to inclusive and sustainable development. With the support of CDB, GOB is targeting those most in need to ensure equitable access to basic services and to uplift the quality of life for all Belizeans.

The Ministry of Economic Transformation extends its sincere gratitude to the Caribbean Development Bank for its continued partnership and reaffirms its dedication to working with all relevant agencies and community stakeholders to achieve the goals of BNTF 11.

ITVET Hope Creek Rehabilitation Project: Stage 1

Contractor Introduction Meeting for the ITVET Hope Creek Rehabilitation Project! BSIF staff, the contractor, and the consultant meet as works are to commence shortly on the compound. (post)

It’s a great day for the faculty, staff and students of the Stann Creek ITVET as the Belize Social Investment Fund is proving to be all over Belize delivering development. An Institute for Technical and Vocational Education and Training in Stann Creek stands to be a great part of the foundation for greater employment opportunities for the citizens of the future in that district and beyond.



Women’s Commission Begins New Era New Board Inaugurated with National Reach

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. July 17, 2025 — A new chapter in Belize’s gender equity movement was officially launched at the Belize Biltmore Plaza with the inauguration of the 13-member Board of Commissioners for the National Women’s Commission (NWC). This significant event marked not only the installation of a new board but the realization of a powerful vision—one that ensures representation from every district in Belize.

The event brought together national leaders, advocates, and stakeholders to highlight the renewed focus on advancing gender equality and the rights of women and girls. The inauguration featured addresses from Her Excellency Rossana Briceño, Special Envoy for the Development of Families and Children, and Hon. Thea Garcia-Ramirez, Minister of Human Development, Family Support and Gender Affairs.

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EDITORIAL

REINFORCEMENT OF PUBLIC TRUST

What has the Briceño administration done with the back-to-back people-given super majorities after two General Elections? Additionally, each super mandate was subsequently fully endorsed by its respective Village Council and Municipal Elections victories. The list of PUP plan-Belize achievements is seemingly endless, encompassing people-driven and people-centred projects and initiatives, all under the North Star's gleam. Let's say Belizeans are working in record numbers, unemployment is at record lows, GDP is leading the hemisphere, crime rates are still being reduced, and even the Happiness index is positive.

Yet, the power to change the constitution is not wielded in Plan Belize nor by Prime Minister John Briceño. The sacred Constitution of Belize receives utmost respect, even in the face of inevitable changes that time demands of this steadfast yet dynamic document. Such amendments to the Belizean constitution have a process embedded in the same constitution. This process has now been triggered as law-abiding citizens have had enough of criminals running rampant and seizing peace of mind, not to mention ending lives. Crime is lower than years past, but now citizens feel that the eradication of crime needs to be more deeply enshrined in the constitution. The Government of Belize is now implementing changes that may be considered sweeping or insufficient, depending on who you ask. The discussion of the Constitution Bill, also known as the Thirteenth Amendment, is entering its ninety-day period, having passed its First reading in the House of Representatives. Knowledge of this bill is crucial as everyone participates in this democracy.

In summary, let us shed light on the changes being discussed. The White Paper on the bill outlines and justifies proposed amendments to the Belize Constitution and related legislation. These amendments aim to "Empower the State to declare "special areas" in response to serious threats to public safety; Clarify constitutional provisions related to states of public emergency (SoEs); Validate previous SoEs and acts taken under them since 2018; Establish a specialised Gun and Gang Court with hybrid judicial powers; Harmonise constitutional provisions and expand institutional clarity." According to the White Paper, the "urgency for these changes is underscored by divergent judicial interpretations and the pressing need to ensure legal certainty, enhance crime prevention efforts, and uphold constitutional integrity in the face of modern criminal threats." Let us emphasise that crime prevention is crucial to maintaining law and order; law-abiding citizens wholeheartedly support this. Being afraid of these amendments may lead one to be suspected of being involved in a crime. All law is there to be interpreted, and it might be worse to do nothing and be guilty of nonfeasance.

The White Paper lays an objective of the proposed constitutional amendments to: "Enable the Governor General, on the advice of the National Security Council (NSC) and on reasonable grounds, to declare special areas where constitutional rights may be temporarily limited to ensure public safety;" This goes along with the creation of a constitutionally grounded Gun and Gang Court; and legal framework for future emergency and public safety actions. The court has ruled for and against SoEs in recent months, indicating that there was not enough clarity. Both the recent UDP government and the PUP government have utilised the SoE, with the latter making more provisions to protect law-abiding citizens from its effects. There may have been a lot of intelligence-based guesswork in past SoEs, and the intent now is to lessen this by giving the law more authority. Will this be abused? If we stay behind this fear, the criminal element will rejoice.

So the White Paper explains: "on reasonable grounds and in the interest of public safety, public order and to prevent, detect and controlling crime, can within a designated area, limit the rights of citizens for some time and allow the security forces, without a warrant, to do amongst other things, (i) undertake a search of any premises, place, vehicle, person or thing upon reasonable suspicion of being thereon or therein any unlawful drug or any unlicensed or prohibited firearm or ammunition, or any unlawfully-obtained article or thing, or any person wanted in connection with a criminal investigation and (ii) arrest any person upon reasonable suspicion of his having committed or of being about to commit an offence." The onus of reasonable grounds will need to be handled with more openness than before. The people will not stand for police corruption within elements to increase via this amendment, as that is not the objective. The law will "establish the legal framework for justified, time-bound suspension of rights in special areas."

The proposed Gun and Gang Court is being scrutinised with earnestness. It seeks to amend "the judicial framework to permit the creation of a specialised court to adjudicate firearms and gang-related offences." It would "be constitutionally authorised; Operate with hybrid powers of a magistrate and a High Court judge; and support efficient case management in high-risk matters."

Key to this success of the 13th amendment is the "Reinforcement of public trust in the constitutional order and government accountability." The Briceño administration seeks to give law enforcement and the judicial systems a more robust legal toolkit to combat gang violence and organised crime. The amendment strikes a balance between security and civil liberties. It is one worth the supermajority effort to reaffirm the commitment to public safety, constitutional integrity, and the rule of law.

en Español

REFUERZO DE LA CONFIANZA PUBLICA

¿Qué ha hecho la administración Briceño con las dos mayorías absolutas consecutivas otorgadas por el pueblo tras dos elecciones generales? Además, cada mandato absoluto fue posteriormente respaldado por completo por sus respectivas victorias en las elecciones municipales y del consejo de aldea. La lista de logros del plan Belice del PUP parece interminable, y abarca proyectos e iniciativas impulsadas por el pueblo y centrados en él, todos ellos bajo el brillo de la Estrella Polar. Digamos que los beliceños están trabajando en cifras récord, el desempleo está en mínimos históricos, el PIB lidera el hemisferio, las tasas de criminalidad siguen reduciéndose e incluso el índice de felicidad es positivo.

Sin embargo, ni el Plan Belice ni el primer ministro John Briceño tienen el poder de cambiar la Constitución. La sagrada Constitución de Belice recibe el máximo respeto, incluso ante los inevitables cambios que el tiempo exige a este documento firme pero dinámico. Las enmiendas a la Constitución de Belice tienen un proceso establecido en la propia Constitución. Este proceso se ha puesto en marcha ahora que los ciudadanos respetuosos con la ley están hartos de que los delincuentes campen a sus anchas y les roben la tranquilidad, por no hablar de acabar con vidas. La delincuencia es menor que en años anteriores, pero ahora los ciudadanos consideran que la erradicación de la delincuencia debe estar más profundamente consagrada en la Constitución. El Gobierno de Belice está aplicando ahora cambios que pueden considerarse radicales o insuficientes, según a quién se pregunte. El debate sobre el proyecto de ley constitucional, también conocido como la Decimotercera Enmienda, entra en su periodo de noventa días, tras haber superado la primera lectura en la Cámara de Representantes. Es fundamental conocer este proyecto de ley, ya que todos participamos en esta democracia.

En resumen, vamos a arrojar luz sobre los cambios que se están debatiendo. El informe técnico sobre el proyecto de ley describe y justifica las enmiendas propuestas a la Constitución de Belice y la legislación relacionada. Estas enmiendas tienen por objeto «facultar al Estado para declarar «zonas especiales» en respuesta a amenazas graves para la seguridad pública; aclarar las disposiciones constitucionales relacionadas con los estados de emergencia pública (SoE); validar los SoE anteriores y las medidas adoptadas en virtud de ellos desde 2018; establecer un tribunal especializado en armas y bandas con poderes judiciales híbridos; armonizar las disposiciones constitucionales y ampliar la claridad institucional». Según el documento de referencia, «la urgencia de estos cambios se ve subrayada por las divergentes interpretaciones judiciales y la necesidad apremiante de garantizar la seguridad jurídica, mejorar los esfuerzos de prevención del delito y defender la integridad constitucional frente a las amenazas delictivas modernas». Cabe destacar que la prevención del delito es fundamental para mantener el orden público, y los ciudadanos respetuosos con la ley lo apoyan sin reservas. El miedo a estas enmiendas puede llevar a sospechar que alguien está involucrado en un delito. Todas las leyes están ahí para ser interpretadas, y podría ser peor no hacer nada y ser culpable de incumplimiento de deberes.

El informe técnico establece el objetivo de las enmiendas constitucionales propuestas: «Permitir al gobernador general, siguiendo el consejo del Consejo de Seguridad Nacional (NSC) y por motivos razonables, declarar zonas especiales en las que se puedan limitar temporalmente los derechos constitucionales para garantizar la seguridad pública». Esto va de la mano de la creación de un tribunal constitucional para armas y bandas, y de un marco legal para futuras acciones de emergencia y seguridad pública. El tribunal se ha pronunciado a favor y en contra de los estados de excepción en los últimos meses, lo que indica que no había suficiente claridad. Tanto el reciente gobierno del UDP como el del PUP han utilizado el estado de excepción, y este último ha establecido más disposiciones para proteger a los ciudadanos respetuosos de la ley de sus efectos. Es posible que en los estados de excepción anteriores se hayan basado en gran medida en inteligencia basadas en conjeturas, y la intención ahora es reducir esto otorgando más autoridad a la ley. ¿Se abusará de esto? Si nos dejamos llevar por este temor, los delincuentes se alegrarán.

Por eso, el documento técnico explica: «por motivos razonables y en interés de la seguridad pública, el orden público y la prevención, detección y control de la delincuencia, se puede, dentro de una zona designada, limitar los derechos de los ciudadanos durante un tiempo y permitir a las fuerzas de seguridad, sin necesidad de una orden judicial, entre otras cosas (i) registrar cualquier local, lugar, vehículo, persona u objeto sobre los que existan sospechas razonables de que se encuentran en ellas drogas ilegales, armas de fuego o municiones sin licencia o prohibidas, artículos u objetos obtenidos ilegalmente, o personas buscadas en relación con una investigación criminal, y (ii) detener a cualquier persona sobre la que existan sospechas razonables de que ha cometido o está a punto de cometer un delito». La carga de la prueba de los motivos razonables deberá tratarse con mayor transparencia que antes. La población no tolerará que la corrupción policial aumente como consecuencia de esta enmienda, ya que eso no es el objetivo. La ley «establecerá el marco jurídico para la suspensión justificada y limitada en el tiempo de los derechos en zonas especiales».

La propuesta de crear un tribunal especializado en armas y bandas está siendo objeto de un minucioso examen. Su objetivo es modificar «el marco judicial para permitir la creación de un tribunal especializado en juzgar delitos relacionados con armas de fuego y bandas». Este tribunal «estaría autorizado constitucionalmente, ejercería poderes híbridos de magistrado y juez del Tribunal Superior y contribuiría a una gestión eficiente de los casos de alto riesgo».

La clave del éxito de la 13.ª enmienda es el «refuerzo de la confianza pública en el orden constitucional y la responsabilidad del Gobierno». La administración Briceño pretende dotar a las fuerzas del orden y al sistema judicial de un conjunto de herramientas legales más sólidas para combatir la violencia de las bandas y el crimen organizado. La enmienda establece un equilibrio entre la seguridad y las libertades civiles. Merece la pena el esfuerzo de la mayoría cualificada para reafirmar el compromiso con la seguridad pública, la integridad constitucional y el Estado de derecho.

Women’s Commission Begins New Era

Continued from page 2

“This is more than a ceremony—it’s an invitation to unite our efforts,” said Special Envoy Rossana Briceño, celebrating the board’s full geographic representation. “From Corozal to Toledo, every woman and girl can now trust that their voices will be heard, and their issues championed.”

Briceño called on the Commissioners to embrace their multifaceted role: advisors, advocates, legislative supporters, and policy coordinators. She emphasized the Commission’s importance in ensuring national frameworks are not only developed but fully implemented across all levels of government. “With your wisdom and courage, we can build bridges across districts and champion a future where no one is left behind.”

Minister García-Ramírez noted the NWC’s legal establishment under the National Women’s Commission Act, 2024, grounding its operations in national policy and international frameworks such as CEDAW, the Beijing Platform for Action, and the Convention of Belém do Pará. She described the Commission as “a critical pillar in Belize’s democratic and development architecture.”

The Commission’s mandate is expansive and ambitious:

- Advising the government on policy affecting women;
- Monitoring Belize’s international gender equality commitments;
- Recommending legal reforms;
- Promoting gender-based violence awareness;
- Coordinating cross-sectoral efforts; and
- Championing women’s and girls’ rights in health, education, employment, justice, and leadership.

Minister García-Ramírez added that the Commission would serve as “the bridge between policy and people,” ensuring gender issues are integrated into every national development priority—from climate resilience to economic opportunity.

A highlight at the event was the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Special Envoy for the Development of Families and Children and the Ministry of Human Development, Families Support and Gender Affairs. This formalized a framework for strategic collaboration on shared goals.

As the new Commissioners take up their duties, both speakers expressed confidence that this revitalized body will drive transformative change. “Your leadership will shape the future of Belize,” said Minister García-Ramírez. “You carry the hopes of our mothers, daughters, sisters, and grandmothers.”

The inauguration of the National Women’s Commission signifies not just a recommitment to gender equality but a bold step forward toward a more just and inclusive Belize.

Empowering Women Through Tech Skills



BELIZE CITY, July 15, 2025 — A groundbreaking initiative to economically empower women and girls through technical training continued its successful rollout this week in Belize City, as the third location of the Cell Phone Repair Training Program officially launched at the Belize Training and Employment Centre (BTEC). This innovative and inclusive effort is a collaborative undertaking between the Office of the Prime Minister, the Taiwan Technical Mission, the National Women’s Commission, and several key partners, including BELTRAIDE and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade, Culture, and Immigration.

The training, which originated as a pilot project in Corozal, is a brainchild of the Corozal Think Tank. This vision is considered a short-term, high-impact model to address digital access gaps while promoting entrepreneurial and employment opportunities for women in Belize. After a successful launch in Punta Gorda and San Ignacio, the program has now reached Belize City, with 75 women and girls participating in hands-on sessions covering diagnostics, disassembly, troubleshooting, and repair of mobile phones.

“Let’s face it—cell phones are no longer a luxury,” said one organizer. “They are essential tools for education, work, and staying connected with loved ones. Learning to repair them is not just a skill—it is economic empowerment.” Hon Thea García Ramírez.

Mr. Andrew Su, Chief of the Taiwan Technical Mission in Belize, emphasized the transformative potential of the training: “Today’s launch goes beyond instruction. It opens doors to a better future. It builds confidence, creates independence, and introduces a new income-generating opportunity in a progressively digital world.”

Hon. Thea García Ramírez, Minister of Human Development, Family Support, and Gender Affairs, spoke passionately about the project’s vision and importance. “When this idea first came to life, I was at the Women’s Commission looking for a program short enough to keep women engaged but valuable enough for them to go out and earn an income,” she explained. “This was about breaking down stereotypes—showing that women can and will succeed in technical fields.”

Mr. Lincoln Blake, Director of the Investment Policy and Compliance Unit (IPCU) explained how the collaboration came together. “We partnered with the Taiwan Technical Mission and the Women’s Commission to develop this targeted training. There was clear demand, and with support from Taiwan and an expert from Quintana Roo, we brought this idea to life.”

He added that this initiative goes beyond the classroom. “We’re not just training them—we’re helping them launch their businesses,” he said. “Participants will receive starter kits to help them begin their entrepreneurial journey in the tech service industry.”

With interest growing across districts, the Cell Phone Repair Training Program is emerging as a model for community-led development, economic resilience, and gender empowerment. The goal is clear: ensure that every participant not only learns a new skill but also gains the tools and confidence to transform that skill into a livelihood.

As more districts express interest, stakeholders hope to see this initiative expand even further, bridging digital divides and unlocking the potential of Belize’s women and girls across the country.



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Cabinet Brief

Belmopan. July 17, 2025

The Cabinet met on 15th July 2025.

• In partial fulfilment of Plan Belize 2.0 Cabinet has declared the weekends of July 31st and August 15th as GST Free Back to School weekends. This means that no GST will be charged on goods purchased on Thursday, 31st July to Saturday, 2nd August 2025, and Friday, 15th August to Sunday, 17th August 2025.

• The Minister of Education briefed the Cabinet on the situation between the University of Belize (UB) and the UB Union, who were protesting for a 9 percent pay increase, indicating that the matter was between the UB Board of Trustees and the Union. The Minister further informed Cabinet that the Government’s total contribution to the University of Belize is over \$13.5 million, of which \$7.5 million is given in subventions and more than \$6 million in financial assistance to students.

• Cabinet discussed the escalating sargassum situation, which has seen a 70 percent increase in regional influx compared to the last major episode in 2022. In response, Cabinet has endorsed an Emergency Response Plan jointly developed by the Ministry of Tourism, Youth, Sports & Diaspora Relations and the Ministry of Blue Economy and Marine Conservation. The plan includes the provision of financial assistance to support cleanup operations in affected coastal communities. The Government of Belize will allocate funding and offer incentives to facilitate the collection and transportation of sargassum to designated disposal sites. Recognizing the need for a more sustained and coordinated approach, Cabinet has also instructed the Sargassum Task Force to develop medium- to long-term strategies, including the creation of a monitoring and early warning system to trigger future emergency responses as necessary. Cabinet further called for enhanced collaboration among key ministries, local government authorities, and the private sector to ensure an effective and timely response to this growing environmental and economic threat.

• Cabinet gave its approval for the ratification by the Government of Belize of the Agreement Establishing the Advisory Centre on World Trade Organization (WTO) Law, an international institution providing legal services and capacity-building support to developing countries and Least Developed

Countries in matters related to the WTO. This will assist Belize in meeting its obligation under the treaty to effectively prepare its reports for Trade Policy Reviews and to respond to disputes or challenges that may arise.

• To modernize and align legislation that govern municipal authorities, Cabinet approved the amalgamation of the three separate Acts, namely, the two City Council Acts and the Town Councils Act, into a single Municipal Government Act. Cabinet also approved the modernization and amalgamation of the accounting regulations that govern the financial and accounts management of City and Town Councils in Belize. This will provide better governance, greater uniformity, and increased efficiency and effectiveness of the councils.

• Cabinet gave its approval for the Ministry of Local Government to advance an initiative to modernize and amend the Intoxicating Liquor License Act for improved administration and control of the sale and consumption of liquor in Belize.

• Following the successful completion of the National Identification pilot project, Cabinet has granted approval for the full-scale rollout of the National ID. This pivotal decision also includes the development and implementation of a comprehensive on-boarding strategy to ensure that all citizens are registered in a timely and effective manner. The nationwide adoption of the National ID will significantly enhance the efficiency, transparency, and responsiveness of public and private services in Belize, marking a major step forward in the country’s digital transformation agenda.

• Cabinet gave its approval for the introduction of legislation to establish a legal and institutional framework for Belize’s climate change governance and will introduce the Climate Change and Carbon Market Initiatives Bill in the House of Representatives. This bill will provide the operational guidelines for climate change and carbon market activities in Belize.

• Building on the success of the past three Climate Week events, Cabinet encourages all Belizeans to participate in Climate Week 2025, which will be held in Belize City from 25th to 29th August 2025. A key focus of the event will be on engaging youth and empowering their active participation in climate action initiatives, so they can better understand the vital role they play in a sustainable future.

• Cabinet Welcomed an update on the 2025 Investment Summit, to be held in San Pedro, Ambergris Caye from 3rd to 5th September 2025. This year’s Summit will highlight investment opportunities in priority sectors and position Belize as a resilient, investment-ready, connected, forward-looking economy and strategic investment hub in the region.

• Cabinet approved the amendment to Statutory Instrument No. 19 of 2025 to allow for the axle tax to be \$30 per axle for foreign cargo trucks and trailers, and \$0 for local, domestic trucks. In addition, Cabinet authorized the Ministry of Transportation to institute a registry to identify the national origin of the cargo trucks traversing border points.

• Having taken note of the Authorization of the CARICOM Heads of Government for Belize to pursue full free movement of nationals under the enhanced cooperation with Barbados, Dominica, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Cabinet gave its approval for the required legislation to be drafted to give effect to this authorization. In addition, Cabinet requested the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade to work with the relevant ministries to implement the arrangement once all necessary requirements are met.

• Finally, Cabinet reminds all Belizean to prepare emergency kits and review family plans this hurricane season.

Ends

WOMEN TAKING THE WHEEL!

The Hon. Thea Garcia Ramirez has made a name in leading in making opportunities available for women in Belize and definitely for women in Corozal Bay. The latest is the Basic Car Service Workshop where women were engaged in learning about technical intricacies of automobiles. These skills are definitely needed in the lives of everyone. Automobiles and their maintenance is definitely a need today.

Hon. Ramirez: *“It was a very empowering morning at our Basic Car Service Workshop! I’d like to publicly thank our unstoppable UWG team under the leadership of Mrs. Shajarie Rogers for making it happen.*

We’re especially grateful to Mr. Carlos Ortega, our amazing facilitator, for breaking it down step by step and making car care simple and hands-on.

A special thanks to Caribbean Tires for their generous support, and to all the incredible participants who showed up, asked questions, and left more confident behind the wheel.”



BELIZEPROPERTYAUCTIONS.COM COUNTRYWIDE PUBLIC AUCTION SALE: PROPERTY *Carmelita Village, Orange Walk District*

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees Messrs. The Belize Bank Limited, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via belizepropertyauctions.com the following property. Sale currently running and will expire fortnightly on the date and time listed on the website until the property is sold.

1. Parcel No. 2046 Residential/Guest House/Sawmill/Storeroom, Pasture Carmelita Village, Orange Walk District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Carmelita Village	4	2046

Timber Dwelling House/Workshop + Timber Building Store Room + Sawmill Operations Area + Pasture TOGETHER with land containing 24.66 acres of land situate in Carmelita Village, Orange Walk District, the freehold property of Mr. Walden Windsor Adolphus.

“FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & PHOTOGRAPHS PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE”

TERMS: STRICTLY CASH
KEVIN A. CASTILLO
TELEPHONE 223-4488
Website: belizepropertyauctions.com
E-mail: kevinacas@yahoo.com
Facebook: Belize Auction

FOR SALE BY ORDER OF THE MORTGAGEE

The Development Finance Corporation of Bliss Parade, City of Belmopan, Cayo District hereby gives notice of its intention to exercise its power of sale as mortgagee under Deed of Mortgages or Charges between those hereinafter named and the said Corporation which mortgages or charges are recorded at the Land Titles Unit or the Lands Registry, respectively and that the said Development Finance Corporation will, at the expiration of two (2) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, sell the properties described in the Schedule hereto.

All offers to purchase the said properties must be made in writing to the said Corporation at its Headquarters Office or District Offices.

SCHEDULE

Parcel No. 1152, Block No. 20, Mount Pleasant Registration Section containing approximately 5 acre(s) situate along the Western Highway in the Mount Pleasant Area, Cayo District, Belize, held under a Land Certificate being the freehold interest of AJ'S GROUP INTERNATIONAL CO. LTD.

Parcel No. 13085, Block No. 7, San Pedro Registration Section containing 0.5 Acre (s) situate in San Pedro Town, Ambergris Caye, Belize District, held under a Land Certificate being the freehold interest of YAHYA MOHAMAD HARMOUCHE surety for ANA NOELLE ALAMILLA.

Parcel No. 2680, Block No. 7, San Pedro Registration Section containing 416.449 Square Yard (s) situate in the Escalante Sub-Division, San Pedro Town, Ambergris Caye, Belize, held under a Land Certificate being the freehold interest of ANA NOELLE ALAMILLA surety for ANA NOELLE ALAMILLA AND YAHYA MOHAMAD HARMOUCHE.

Parcel No. 7026, Block No. 16, Ladyville/Lord's Bank Registration Section containing approximately 541.966 Square Meter (s) in the subdivison known as Los Lagos situate in the Mile 13 Area, Phillip Goldson Highway, Ladyville, Belize District, Belize, held under a Land Certificate being the freehold interest of KEVIN KEMELE WADE.

Parcel No. 879, Block No. 1, San Jose/ San Pablo Registration Section containing approximately 655.2 Square Meter (s) situate in San Jose Village, Orange Walk District, Belize, held under a Land Certificate being the freehold interest of JUAN MARCOS TECK.

DATED THIS 10th DAY OF JULY 2025



Belize National Prayer

Almighty and Eternal God, who through Jesus Christ has revealed Your Glory to all nations, please protect and preserve Belize, our beloved country.

God of might, wisdom and justice, please assist our Belizean government and people with your Holy Spirit of counsel and fortitude.

Let Your light of Your divine wisdom direct their plans and endeavours so that with Your help we may attain our just objectives.

With Your guidance, may all our endeavours tend to peace, social justice, liberty, national happiness, the increase of industry, sobriety and useful knowledge.

We pray, O God of Mercy, for all of us that we may be blessed in the knowledge and sanctified in the observance of Your most holy law, that we may be preserved in union and, in that peace which the world itself cannot give.

And, after enjoying the blessings of this life, please admit us, dear Lord, to that eternal reward that You have prepared for those who love You.

Amen.

Building Financial Stability and Self-reliance

“Unlock your Baking Potential”



July 16th 2025 - With hearts full of pride and gratitude, the Office of the Special Envoy and twenty remarkable women and men celebrate the successful completion of the six-week “Unlock Your Baking Potential” training program, a truly enrich-

ing journey of Belizean culinary creativity. The enterprising participants embraced this opportunity to learn, grow, and transform their passion for baking into a pathway for financial stability and self-reliance. At today’s ceremony, certificates were presented to all participants in recognition of their dedication, and commitment they demonstrated throughout the program. This celebration marks not just the end of a course, but the beginning of new and exciting entrepreneurial ventures. The Special Envoy and team members are especially proud of the inclusivity shown by the male participants, whose enthusiasm and participation reaffirm that baking, like opportunity, knows no gender. The Office of the Special Envoy for the Development of Families and Children extends its deepest appreciation to the Embassy of the Republic of China (Taiwan), Taiwan ICDF, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade, Culture, and Immigration for their invaluable support in making this collaborative initiative possible. Your partnership continues to be a beacon of hope and development for our people. A special and heartfelt thank you is

extended to Ms. Ila Reid, owner of Ila’s Pastry House, whose unwavering passion, mentorship, and nurturing spirit were the soul of this program. Through her guidance and the sharing of cherished Belizean family recipes, she has passed on not just

skills, but tradition and love. Finally, to each participant: thank you for showing up with open hearts and minds. Your courage to learn, your drive to succeed, and your belief in yourselves are what made this program truly meaningful. We celebrate you today and look forward to the sweet success that lies ahead. (Special Envoy Fb page)

NOTICE

GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE TREASURY BILLS ISSUE NUMBER 10/2025

Tenders are invited for an issue of Government of Belize Treasury Bills. The amount of the issue will be \$64,391,800.00.

The Bills will be issued in electronic form only evidenced by an electronic book entry in the Central Securities Depository (CSD) of the Central Bank of Belize in multiples of \$200 and will be repayable at par 91 days after issue. They will be issued on Tuesday, 22 July 2025 and will be redeemed on Tuesday, 21 October 2025.

Each tender must be for \$200 or a multiple of \$200 and must specify to five decimal places the amount, which is offered for each one hundred dollars face value of the Bills sought.

Members of the public who wish to participate in the auction must submit their bid to the Central Bank of Belize electronically to bids@centralbank.org.bz or at the designated drop off box no later than 12:00 noon on Friday, 18 July 2025.

The Auction in the Central Securities Depository System (CSD) will be opened from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm on Tuesday 22 July 2025.

Successful bidders should arrange to settle via the Automated Payment & Securities Settlement System of Belize (APSSS).

Bank: Central Bank of Belize
Account: GLICORP0402627

The Government of Belize reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all tenders in whole or in part.

CENTRAL BANK OF BELIZE

Notices are placed on Central Bank of Belize Website (www.centralbank.org.bz)

FSGAD Hosts Strategic Planning Workshop

“Transforming Together”



The Family Support and Gender Affairs Department (FSGAD), under the Ministry of Human Development, Family Support, and Gender Affairs (MHDFSGA), convened a two-day Strategic Planning Workshop from July 10 to 11, 2025, bringing together staff from both national and district levels, alongside Ministry leadership. Held under the theme “Transforming Together,” the workshop provided a collaborative platform for reviewing, refining, and finalizing the Department’s Strategic Plan for 2025–2030. The session was designed to ensure that FSGAD’s path forward remains rooted in inclusive, gender-transformative programming that meets the needs of the country’s most vulnerable populations. Key objectives of the workshop included:

- Finalizing the Strategic Plan 2025–2030 to guide the Department’s priorities and actions over the next five years.
- Strengthening team cohesion and deepening shared commitment to gender equity and inclusive social development.

The workshop highlighted the Department’s core focus areas and strategic interventions while also encouraging open dialogue, reflection, and forward-thinking. It emphasized the importance of synergy between central leadership and district teams in transforming the lives of those served through FSGAD’s various programs. Hon. Thea Garcia-Ramirez and the Ministry of Human Development remain steadfast in their mission to uplift Belizean families and foster equity across communities. (release)

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Companies listed below have been dissolved and duly struck off the IBC Register as follows:

NAME OF COMPANY	Date of Dissolution
GAMBIER FINANCE BELIZE LTD	24th April, 2025

Morgan & Morgan Trust Corporation Belize Ltd.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Companies listed below have been dissolved and duly struck off the IBC Register as follows:

NAME OF COMPANY	Date of Dissolution
MORAY MARITIME CO. LTD. CELEBRATO LTD.	16th June, 2025 30th June, 2025

Morgan & Morgan Trust Corporation Belize Ltd.

PRIME MINISTER VISITING HIS PEOPLE



The Prime Minister of Belize, Hon. John Briceño, paid a surprise visit to the </501Coders> Summer Camp at Banquitas USpace — and the campers made sure it was extra special!

They sang a joyful "Happy Birthday" to him, wowed him with their drone-flying skills, and even got him behind the controls! (Spoiler: he almost landed it perfectly on the first try!

A huge thank you to the Prime Minister for the yummy ice cream and for spending time with our young tech stars — your visit brought big smiles and even bigger inspiration.



AT THE SHANE ORIO FOOTBALL ACADEMY

PM Briceño post: "It's the summer break as we call it, and positively engaging our youngsters is paramount. This week, I took to the field at the Shane Orio Football Academy.

It's still so liberating to run and kick ball with the guys. These youngsters show great promise. To all our youngsters, have a happy and safe vacation time."

Shane Orio post: "The Prime Minister chatted with our campers, encouraging them to keep playing sports, stay active, and remain positive.

The best part was when he showed off his football skills. Cool moves, Prime Minister!

What an exciting way to wrap up our practice!

Thanks for stopping by and inspiring us, Prime Minister!"



Special Envoy at 3rd Annual Global First Ladies Academy

Special Envoy Rossana Briceño: "I am honored to have been invited to attend and represent Belize in the third annual, a 3-day executive leadership training in health and development, hosted by the Global First Ladies Alliance (GFLA) and the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health at the Ford Foundation in New York City.

This academy brought together First Ladies and First Partners from across Africa, the Caribbean, the Middle East, and Latin America. The purpose of this academy is to equip participants with the knowledge, strategies and global partnerships needed to strengthen our leadership and continue to drive transformative change nationally and globally.

The program provided vital insights into current trends, priorities, critical research and approaches to address critical issues such as mental health, gender-based violence, maternal health, food security and climate change.

Attending this academy has been an insightful experience that will significantly enhance the efforts and outreach of my office. By deepening our understanding of current global issues and fostering a strong network of First Ladies and First Partners, we are better prepared to advocate for positive change and social transformation in Belize, as well as implement effective and impactful initiatives.

I look forward to applying the knowledge gained to strengthen educational, health, and social development programs, advance our advocacy efforts and continue our commitment to improve the lives of families and children in Belize."



Belize Moves Toward Energy Independence

BELIZE CITY, Thurs. July 10, 2025 — In a landmark moment for Belize's energy sector, the Government of Belize and Belize Electricity Limited (BEL) have signed a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with Blair Athol Power Company Limited (BAPCoL) to develop a 15-Megawatt solar energy facility, marking a major step toward national energy security and a cleaner, more sustainable future.

The agreement, signed at BEL headquarters in Belize City, is the culmination of over a decade of effort and perseverance. Prime Minister Hon. John Briceño, reflecting on the long road to this moment, called it both "bitter and sweet"—bitter because it took nearly five years of his administration to finalize the agreement, but sweet because it represents "a key step on the path to energy security" and a milestone in Belize's renewable energy journey.

"We currently rely on Mexico for nearly half of our electricity supply," Prime Minister Briceño noted. "This is a major vulnerability. We all experienced the rolling blackouts when Mexico's demand outpaced supply, leaving Belize in the dark. Today's agreement is about taking back control of our energy future."

The PPA allows for the construction of a 15-MW solar generation facility, ex-



(l-r) BEL Chair, E. Andrew Marshalleck, BEL CEO, John Mencias, BAPCoL CEO, Michael Bowen, and BAPCoL Chief External Affairs Officer, Hilberto Martinez

pected to begin construction by November or December 2025, with commercial operation projected by late 2026. Once operational, the plant will provide clean, locally generated solar energy directly into Belize's national grid.

Jose Moreno, BEL's General Manager for Energy Markets, Transmission, and Interconnection, praised the hard work of all stakeholders. "This is a huge success," Moreno said. "It took collaboration, persistence, and shared vision. We thank BAPCoL, the Public Utilities Commission, and the Government of Belize for helping bring

this project to life."

BAPCoL, led by principals Michael Bowen and Hilberto Martinez, first proposed the renewable facility in 2013. Overcoming environmental, technical, and financial hurdles, the project gained momentum in 2020 when negotiations began in earnest with BEL.

BEL Chairman Andrew Marshalleck highlighted the importance of this transition to solar, remarking that while solar utilities have existed in other nations since the early 1980s, Belize has long needed to make this shift. "BEL recognized the need to go solar from the start of the 21st century," he said, thanking the BAPCoL team for their entrepreneurial determination.

Prime Minister Briceño further emphasized that this project is one of several initiatives aimed at achieving energy security. He cited the government's push

for concessionary financing for two major projects: the \$154 million, 60 MW Saudi-funded solar plant and the \$120 million, 40 MW World Bank-funded battery energy storage system. A \$40 million MCC grant is also being pursued to reduce electricity costs.

"These projects alone won't solve our energy challenges, but they are important steps," Prime Minister Briceño stressed. "We see energy security as a matter of national security—and as a foundation for transformative growth. It is not just about keeping the lights on; it is about powering our economic future."

Belize is also exploring regional energy interconnection with Central America, positioning itself as a future exporter of clean energy to Mexico, Guatemala, and beyond. "To grow beyond agriculture, tourism, and BPOs, we must engineer transformative change," the Prime Minister stated. "Energy security is that pathway."

As Belize continues to build a stronger, more resilient energy infrastructure, today's agreement signals that the country is serious about reducing its dependence on foreign electricity, enhancing climate resilience, and supporting economic growth through sustainable innovation.

"This little Belize has its own mark to make," the Prime Minister concluded. "And make it, we will."

Certainly! Here is your updated newspaper article with the new section added seamlessly to the bottom, maintaining the original article and flow:

Special Committee to Chart Belize's Energy Future

Belmopan, July 16, 2025 — As part of its broader energy transformation strategy, the Government of Belize has launched the Special Electricity Committee (SEC) to guide the development of a National Electrical Energy Mix Master Plan. The committee, chaired by Dr. Leroy Almendarez, CEO in the Ministry of Public Utilities, Energy, and Logistics, is tasked with creating a roadmap toward a reliable, affordable, and sustainable energy future.

This initiative follows a high-level meeting convened by Prime Minister Briceño on June 20 with key energy stakeholders to address Belize's urgent electricity supply challenges.

The SEC's mandate includes:

- Revising Belize's Least Cost Expansion Plan (LCEP).
- Forecasting energy demand over 2-, 5-, and 10-year periods.
- Commissioning a national grid study.
- Launching Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for solar-plus-storage systems.
- Exploring interconnection agreements with Mexico and Guatemala.
- Recommending regulatory reforms to attract private investment.
- Proposing the creation of an Independent System Operator (ISO) to ensure grid reliability and transparency.

Membership includes representatives from the Ministry of Finance, BEL, PUC, and the private sector, as well as technical energy experts.

"This Committee is not just a technical body—it is a national effort to ensure every Belizean has access to reliable, affordable, and sustainable electricity," said Dr. Al-



mendarez. "It will be central to how Belize charts its path forward in the energy sector."

The SEC represents yet another commitment by the Government of Belize to ensuring that energy security becomes a pillar of national development and economic transformation.



NOTICE OF VOLUNTARY DISSOLUTION

Notice is hereby given that the following company has been struck off the Register of Companies and dissolved with effect from the date indicated:

HAMMONIA TRADING COMPANY LTD.
– 09th July, 2025

Icaza Belize Trust Corporation Limited
Registered Agent

BELIZEPROPERTYAUCTIONS.COM COUNTRYWIDE PUBLIC AUCTION SALE: VEHICLE

Belize City, Belize District

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees Messrs. Atlantic Bank Limited, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via belizepropertyauctions.com the following vehicle. Sale currently running and will expire fortnightly on the date and time listed on the website until the vehicle is sold.

2016 Chevy Equinox



"FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & PHOTOGRAPHS PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE"

TERMS: STRICTLY CASH
KEVIN A. CASTILLO
TELEPHONE 223-4488
Website: belizepropertyauctions.com
E-mail: kevinacas@yahoo.com
Facebook: Belize Auction

Land and Housing for Monkey River

Tuesday July 15 – On Toledo East, thirty-five residents of Monkey River were given land in Bella Vista. This relocation moves them farther inland, improving access to essential services and resources while also fostering a stronger sense of community between the two villages. An additional 25 residents will receive parcels of land in a second phase of this distribution initiative very soon.



Congratulations to Belize on the Silver Medal

This is the male championship for Central American Volleyball.
Champion: Guatemala
Sub Champion: Belize
Third Place: Nicaragua
A big round of applause to all the individual award recipients, especially our very own Francis Hauze (1st Best Attacker) and Hakan Godoy (2nd Best Blocker)!

Congratulations to all: Elton Anderson (Captain), Brayden Richardson, Ernest Broaster, David Garbutt, Michael Jenkins, Eleazar Mejia, Kyron Sutherland, Karym Coleman, Edgar Martinez, Kaelen Ingram, Hakan Godoy, Francis Hauze, and Bryton Codd. Thanks to all the coaches.

Belize now looks forward to hosting and being a part of the games for the under-23 female team. Go Team Belize.



Another heartfelt story is that of another resident of the same community of Monkey River who received the keys to her very first home. This is after losing the house she had been living in to a devastating fire three years ago, she now has a safe and secure place to call her own.

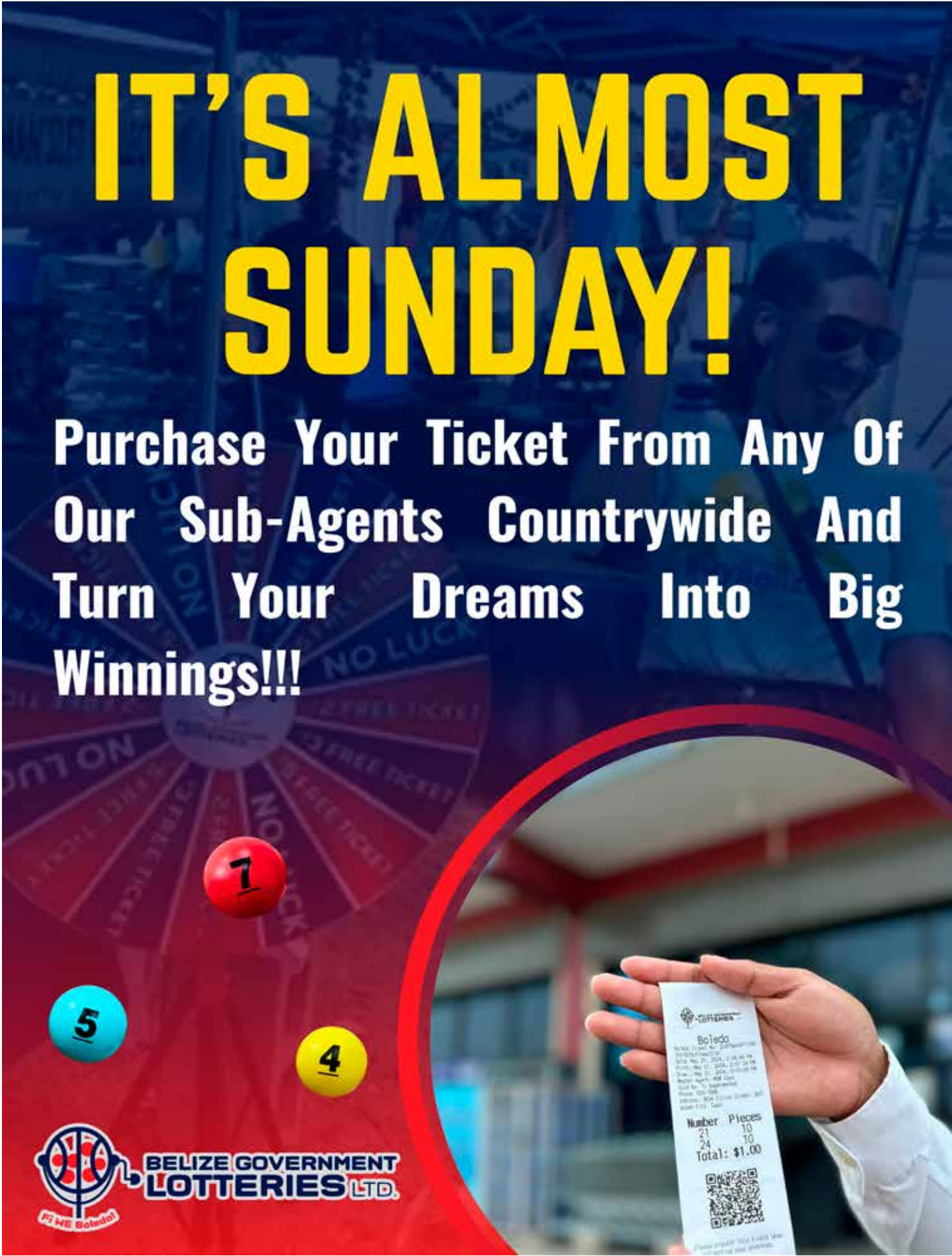
The Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing (MIDH) took a unique approach in her case, as the recipient had already begun the process of rebuilding by investing in the structural beams for a new home. Building on her initiative, the Ministry supported the completion of the exterior of the project.

This home is the first one handed over under MIDH's Housing Program in Monkey River, marking a significant milestone for both the community and GOB.

PlanBelize is slowly making a mark in the lives of Belizeans. As the MIDH says, "one family at a time."

IT'S ALMOST SUNDAY!

Purchase Your Ticket From Any Of Our Sub-Agents Countrywide And Turn Your Dreams Into Big Winnings!!!



FIGHTING FUSARIUM



July 9, 2025:
Today a delegation consisting of Belizean cane farmers, technicians and senior staff the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Enterprise, and other Government officials, visited the neighbouring Mexican state of Quintana Roo to participate in a presentation and field visit in connection with the Management and Control of Fusarium in Sugarcane.

The presentation and field visit, organized by the Production and Sugarcane Quality Committee of Ingenio San Rafael de Pucte, a sugar cane factory in Pucte, Quintana Roo, and coordinated by the government of the State of Quintana Roo, aims to help cane farmers in Quintana Roo and Belize deal with the fungus Fusarium, which has devastated cane fields in neighbouring Mexico and now has spread to Belize. The sugar cane crops in both countries for this season and the following will be adversely affected by the disease.

The delegation participated in a presentation led by several Mexican experts and then went on visits to sugarcane fields in surrounding areas of the Mexican side of the Rio Hondo, where Pucte and the San Rafael sugar factory are located.

Minister of Agriculture Jose Abelardo Mai led the Belizean delegation today, and was accompanied by CEO Servulo Baeza and several Senior members of staff of the Ministry of Agriculture. (post)



COROZAL BAY MARSHALLS PRESENTS

START AT 9 AM
SUNDAY
JULY
20

SUNDAY
FAMILY
FUN DAY

LEADERSHIP THAT
DELIVERS!

MIAMI BEACH, COROZAL TOWN

MUSIC AND SOUNDS

FOOD AND DRINKS
ON SALE

FREE REGISTRATION

EACH SPORT WILL BE AWARDED A
1ST PRIZE

\$400 PLUS MEDALS AND TROPHY

2ND PRIZE

\$200 PLUS MEDALS AND TROPHY

STREET BASKETBALL

COROZAL BAY MARSHALLS PUP

BEACH FOOTBALL

TO REGISTER YOUR TEAM YOU CAN CONTACT THE FOLLOWING :
FOR BEACH FOOTBALL 636-2778,
FOR STREET BASKETBALL 606-3416
OR COROZAL BAY MARSHALLS AT 666 6200.



Request for Bids (RFB)

Water Supply & Modernization Program

BL-L1043

Water Network Expansion Works for Harmonyville

1. This RFB follows the General Procurement Notice for this Project publicized as of 27 June 2025.
2. Belize Water Services Limited has received financing from the Inter-American Development Bank toward the cost of Water Supply & Modernization Program and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to payments under the Contract for Works for Water Network Expansion to Harmonyville.
3. The Belize Water Services Limited now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for Water Network Expansion Works for Harmonyville. The delivery/construction period is 180 days from Start Date as specified in ITB 5.4 (k).
4. The RFB will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures specified in the Inter-American Development Bank's Policies for the Procurement of Goods and Works financed by the Inter-American Development Bank GN-2349-15 and is open to all bidders from Eligible Source Countries as defined in the bidding document.
5. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from Belize Water Services Limited, Ms. Stephanie Lozano, Procurement Specialist at rce@bws.com.bz
6. Qualification requirements include: copies of original documents defining the constitution, Power of Attorney, experience in works similar nature and size for the past 5 years and other information as requested in the RFB document ITB 5.
7. A complete set of the bidding document in English may be obtained by interested bidders on the submission of a written Application to the address below. The bidding document will be sent by email.
8. Bids must be delivered to the address below at or before 2:00 p.m. 25th July 2025. Electronic bidding "shall not" be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened physically at 2:15 p.m. 25th July 2025 in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend in person or on-line.
9. All bids "shall" be accompanied by a "Bid Security" of 3% of bid price in US Dollars or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency.
10. The address referred to above is: Ms. Stephanie Lozano, Procurement Specialist, Belize Water Services Limited, 7 Central American Boulevard, Belize City, Belize C.A.

LIQUOR LICENSE NOTICES:

Notice is hereby given that **Tanisha Vernon** is applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at "**Tuk Tuk Belize Tour Services**" located at # 6294 Pike Crescent, Buttonwood Bay, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Kim-masha D. McField** is applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at "**K3 Cool Spot**" located at # 823 C.A. Blvd., Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Liyan Jiang** is applying for a **Publican Special Liquor License** to be operated at "**Wa Haha Store**" located at # 11 2nd Ave., Buttonwood Bay, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Xiao Peng Zhu** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at "**828 Super Center**" located at # 2126 Chetumal Street, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

SCA – UNDP Launch

St. Catherine’s Academy Goes Solar
Solar-Powered Student Charging Stations and More ahead
UNDP Climate Promise and ProSolar



The all-girls school in Belize City is again showing why they are arguably the leading secondary school in Belize. St. Catherine Academy is well-known for its volleyball prowess, its CXC excellence, its academic resiliency and its penchant to leading the charge in education in Belize. Those is academic circles quietly know that if you are a girl in Belize City and academically inclined that you will aspire to go to St. Catherine Academy. SCA does remarkably well in attracting as many students in Belize as inclusivity is foremost of course. Winning is definitely a part of their school’s DNA and the following is a shining example how their students tend to excel beyond the confines of the classroom. The school leadership team does excellent in fomenting innovation.

Belize City, Belize – July 16, 2025 – St. Catherine’s Academy has officially launched a solar- powered charging station in its cafeteria, offering students access to clean, renewable energy to power their devices. The initiative was made possible through the UNDP Climate Promise Project, under the RBLAC TRAC-2 2024 grant, and additional support from ProSolar.

Led by the **SCA Wave Makers Environmental Group**, the project received a grant from UNDP, which the students leveraged to secure matching private sector support. The installation stands as a model of youth-led innovation and public-private collaboration in advancing climate solutions.

“This project reflects the creativity and leadership of Belizean youth when empowered with resources and support,” said Michael Lund, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative. “These solar-powered outlets symbolize how young people are helping to power Belize’s future with clean energy.”

The initiative is part of a wider effort under UNDP’s Climate Promise to support the next generation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC 3.0) through inclusive governance, ensuring youth, women, Indigenous Peoples, and local communities play active roles in climate action.

Funded schools across Belize are engaged in: Promoting energy efficiency and renewable energy; Implementing waste reduction and recycling; Creating green spaces and enhancing biodiversity; and Leading climate education campaigns.

This project also advances key inclusivity goals, including: Strengthening youth participation in climate policy; Enhancing intergenerational equity; and Expanding access to climate-related information, finance, and technology

The SCA solar charging station serves

as both a learning tool and a practical solution, exposing students to real-world sustainability practices and building skills relevant to the green economy.

This milestone also highlights the crucial role of the private sector. With ProSolar’s contribution, the initiative exemplifies how strategic partnerships can help scale impactful, youth-led climate action across Belize.



BYM PRESENTS

HANDS ONLY CPR
& BASIC FIRST-AID
TRAINING

TRAINING BY MR. JAVIER CANUL

SATURDAY, 19TH OF JULY 2025

8-12 years
9AM to 12PM

13-18 years
1PM to 3PM

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER AUDITORIUM

SIGN UP AT 6627360 - WHATSAPP ONLY

BELIZE YOUTH MOVEMENT . BELIZE YOUTH MOVEMENT

PUBLIC AUCTION SALE

BY ORDER OF THE CHARGEЕ HOLY REDEEMER CREDIT UNION LIMITED, a Licensed Public Auctioneer will sell on site the following property at the time as listed.

At No. 2 Lord’s Bank Road, Lord’s Bank Village, Belize District on Wednesday 30th July 2025 at 10:00am

SCHEDULE

ALL THAT lot, piece or parcel of land comprising 1,181.421 square metres being Parcel 3762, Block 16 in the Ladyville/Lord’s Bank Registration Section situate at No. 2 Lord’s Bank Road, Lord’s Bank Village, Belize District **TOGETHER** with a two-storey concrete residential apartment building containing two units on the ground floor and one unit on the upper floor for a total habitable area of approximately 5998 square feet. The property is located close to the highway and all utility services are available, the freehold property of **MAVIS WILLIAMS**

DATED this 15th day of July 2025



All sales are strictly cash and deemed final. For more information contact:

HOLY REDEEMER CREDIT UNION LIMITED
1 HYDE’S LANE, BELIZE CITY, BELIZE
Phone: (501) 280-5644
Fax: (501) 223-0738
E-mail: foreclosures@hrcubelize.org
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/hrcuforeclosure/>

Belizean History Unearthed

Caracol's First King Discovered - A Landmark Moment for Belizean Archaeology

All Belizeans know that the Maya are the first Belizeans and as such we consider their history a wholesome part of our own Belizean history. Whenever there is a “discovery” of our past that has been hidden by natural process, we are interested. One of the latest stories comes out from the jungle of the quickly developing Mountain Pine Ridge area. Unearthed was a tomb that is reportedly 1700 years old. Belize’s National Institute of Culture and History chimes in with the following post.

“During the 2025 field season, working under an official permit issued by the Institute of Archaeology, NICH, renowned archaeologists, Drs. Arlen and Diane Chase of the University of Houston uncovered a history-defining discovery at Caracol, the tomb of Te K’ab Chaak, the first king and founder of the city’s royal dynasty. Te K’ab Chaak acceded to the throne in 331 AD and was interred at the base of the royal family shrine with 11 pottery vessels and other prestigious items, including carved bone tubes, jadeite jewelry, a mosaic jadeite mask, Pacific spondylus shells, and other perishable materials. Buried with royal finds, this becomes the first confirmed identifiable ruler's tomb found in over four decades of work in Caracol. This incredible discovery reinforces Caracol’s position as a major center of political, military, and economic power in the Maya world.

The Institute of Archaeology is proud to have supported and facilitated this important research, which confirms Belize’s central role in early Maya civilization and the broader Mesoamerican world.

This discovery not only deepens our understanding of Maya political origins but also highlights the importance of preserving and responsibly researching Belize’s cultural heritage.” (NICH)

World renowned magazine the National Geographic via its Facebook page documented the importance of the findings with the following excerpts by Nicholas St. Fleur: “ “This is an extremely important discovery,” says Francisco Estrada-Belli, an archaeologist at Tulane University and a National Geographic Explorer, who was not involved in the research. “It is extremely rare to find the burial of a known Maya king, let alone of a dynasty founder.”

The researchers say the tomb, along with other finds at the site, may offer evidence that ties between the Maya and the distant metropolis of Teotihuacan began earlier than previously thought. But without inscriptions naming the tomb’s occupant or DNA analysis confirming his identity, some experts caution that the claims remain speculative.”

“Arlen Chase and the team found this latest tomb earlier this year while digging at the site’s northeast acropolis, or palace complex. While reopening an excavation trench from 1993, he stumbled upon a large, undisturbed chamber with walls coated in a red mineral called cinnabar. Finding tombs at Caracol is not unique, says Arlen Chase. They’ve dug up over 850 burials and about 175 tombs at the site. But this newest find stuck out from all the rest.”

““What’s unusual is the contents of this chamber,” he says. That, along with the large size of the tomb—about 6.5 feet in height and 13 feet in length—“tells us that it was somebody important,” he says.

Inside, Chase came across the skeletal remains of a man and a treasure trove of

Continued on Insert 2



PNEUMOCOCCAL DISEASE

An infection caused by a bacteria which can result in serious complications such as pneumonia, bloodstream infections, and meningitis.

Symptoms

Symptoms depend on the part of the body that is infected. Some infections can develop to be Pneumonia or Meningitis – an infection of the lining of the brain and spinal cord. Monitor symptoms as some infections can be life-threatening.

Who is at risk?

- Young children
- Persons in crowded households
- Students in classroom settings
- Workplace settings

Transmission

Most bacteria that cause meningitis such as pneumococcus are carried in the nose and throat. They spread from person to person by droplets or throat discharge (spit).

Prevention

Bacterial and viral meningitis can spread from person to person. If you have contact with someone with meningitis, you should:

- Talk to your doctor or nurse about taking antibiotics (in case of bacterial meningitis)
- Wash hands often
- Avoid close contact and sharing of common personal items (cups, toothbrushes)

Vaccines offer the best protection against common types of bacterial meningitis.

Early diagnosis and treatment are important for pneumococcal infections

822-2325

PlanBelize 2.0

PM John Briceño, OW Central



OW residents had patience rewarded w/ thick durable hotmix



Petville project moving forward

Min. Kevin Bernard, OW East and Health & Wellness



5 wheelchairs handed to Special Education Unit of Ministry of Education

Belize City Council



Tree Planting in the heart of the city

MIDH-led and Other Infrastructure Projects



One of Multiple Major Culverts on the PG Highway



Culverts replaced in Bella Vista, Toledo East



Collaborating w/ fire victim in Monkey River, Toledo East



Hon. Oscar Mira at the concreting by OLOG RC HS in Belmopan



Hon. Florencio Marin's Caledonia in Czl Sudeste

Min. Kareem Musa(Caribbean Shores), Home Affairs



At Future Site of Dangriga Scenes of Crime Office Forensic Office; Collaboration w/ US Embassy



HOLY REDEEMER CREDIT UNION LIMITED

Belize Represented at CCCU Conference

Punta Cana, Dominican Republic June 20 - 24, 2025



Representatives from Holy Redeemer Credit Union, Blue Creek Credit Union, St. John's Credit Union, and the Belize Credit Union League proudly carried the Belizean flag at the 2025 Caribbean Confederation of Credit Unions (CCCU) Conference, held from June 20 to 24 in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic. Held under the powerful theme, **"Shared Vision, Shared Strength: Driving Sustainable Change Together,"** the conference was a dynamic and unifying experience, bringing together credit union leaders from across the Caribbean to share knowledge, strategies, and innovations. Grounded in the life-changing philosophy of **people helping people**, the sessions tackled key areas such as **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** in financial services, **digital transformation**, and the increasing need for **strong governance, compliance, and cybersecurity**. The atmosphere was charged with purpose and progress, as delegates explored new ways to future-proof the movement while staying true to its cooperative roots.

A major highlight for the Belizean delegation—and a proud moment for the nation—was the election of **Mr. Mark Menzies** as the new **Secretary of the CCCU Board**, having previously served as a Board Member. His appointment not only reflects Belize's growing leadership in the regional movement but also reinforces the spirit of unity and shared responsibility that defines credit unions. The newly appointed CCCU Executive Board of Directors includes, in the above picture from left to right: Andrea Messam, President, Jamaica; Lovetta Silcott, Vice-President, Monserrat; Mark Menzies, Secretary, Belize; and Nicklon Elliott, Treasurer, Guyana. **With renewed vision and strengthened bonds across the region, Belize's credit union leaders returned home empowered, energized, and ready to drive sustainable change—proving once again that when we move together, we move stronger.**



"HRCU - Making a difference in People's lives"

Belizean History Unearthed

Continued from Insert 1

Maya artifacts, including: a jade and shell mosaic death mask that had been smashed to more than a hundred pieces; three sets of jade ear ornaments; four jade beads with the faces of spider monkeys; decorative pottery, some adorned with animal motifs and another painted with a ruler holding a spear; and a skull upside down in a pottery vessel, as if it had rolled away from its body.

The individual’s jaw also showed signs that it had resorbed the teeth, indicating that it likely belonged to an elderly person. The researchers think the deceased man was likely laid out or seated on a pallet that eventually decayed, causing his skeleton to collapse.

This ceramic bowl is modeled in the form of an owl. The style matches other vessels from the Early Classic period of Maya history, and based on this, the researchers estimate that the tomb is from A.D. 350.

“Everything about it says ruler,” says Diane Chase. The realization, she says, gave her goosebumps. “It was clear that, Whoa! This really is probably a ruler—it’s probably Te K’ab Chaak.”

Hieroglyphic texts found elsewhere at Caracol refer to Te K’ab Chaak as the founder of the dynasty that ruled the city for more than 460 years and say that his reign began around A.D. 331. The tomb itself contains no writings identifying who was buried there, so the researchers rely on timing to make this claim.

The team dated the newly discovered tomb to between roughly A.D. 330 and 350, based on two key observations: The type of pottery inside was typical of the Early Classic period, which spans from about A.D. 280 to 380, and radiocarbon dating of a nearby cremation burial they previously excavated in Caracol in 2010. That cremation, also dated to around A.D. 330 to 350, was placed above the tomb in the site’s stratigraphy, suggesting the newly found tomb came around the same time or slightly earlier. Taken together, the team argues, these clues point to a ruler’s burial that aligns closely with the period when Te K’ab Chaak sat on the throne.

The pair both say they are “99.9 percent” confident that the tomb belonged to Te K’ab Chaak. “Are we going to still keep looking to double check? Absolutely,” says Diane Chase.

Stephen Houston, an archaeologist from Brown University not involved in the work says the tomb was an intriguing find and agreed that it belonged to royalty. But he added that he needed more convincing to conclude that it contained Te K’ab Chaak. “Perhaps, at some point, a glyphic text will appear and confirm the identity of the deceased,” he says.

Diane and Arlen Chase also argue that their finds at Caracol sheds light on the power dynamics between the Maya and Teotihuacan, an ancient civilization located near present-day Mexico City that is neither Maya nor Aztec (or Mexico).

“The discovery also shines light on the sorts of relationships the Teotihuacanos and Mayas had in the early fourth century, which seem based on trade, pilgrimages to Teotihuacan, and diplomacy,” says David Carballo, an archaeologist from Boston University who was not involved in the research. The journey between the two Mesoamerican cities would have required walking some 750 miles on foot.

In A.D. 378, individuals from Teotihuacan staged a coup or military incursion in the Maya city called Tikal, known as the “entrada.” This is when some archaeologists argue that Teotihuacan influence began to appear in Maya culture.

Diane and Arlen Chase say their find-



ings make the case that the Maya and Teotihuacan interacted at least 28 years earlier, around A.D. 350. One of their strongest pieces of evidence to this connection, they say, is the cremation burial from between A.D. 330 and 350.

Cremation burials were common among the Teotihuacan elites, while the Maya buried their dead. So, the researchers argue that the cremation at Caracol suggests that the people were already being influenced in some way by Teotihuacan decades before the entrada. They also found green obsidian blades at the cremation site, which the researchers say most likely came from north of Teotihuacan.

But not everyone agrees that the researchers have

made a strong enough case to support their argument about earlier Mesoamerican connections.

“I’m not sure what particular thing at this particular site or excavation actually links it to Teotihuacan,” says Anabel Ford, an archaeologist at the University of California, Santa Barbara. “Lots of this is not really falsifiable, just their feelings of the associations.”

“Normally we would publish first and then a news release,” says Diane Chase, “but the find was really so spectacular that we felt like we had to let it out somehow, because people were asking to see pictures and photographs.”

She added that their next steps include attempting to extract ancient DNA from the bones as well as conduct isotope testing on the remains. These tests could provide insights into the individual’s diet and whether he lived most of his life in Caracol or moved around a lot, she says. Such clues, she says, would be key to confirming whether the man buried in the tomb is indeed Te K’ab Chaak.” (excerpts from <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/history/article/maya-ancient-royal-tomb-caracol>)

TAIWAN

ICDF

DIABETES

What is Diabetes?

Diabetes is a disease that occurs when your blood sugar is too high . The most common types of diabetes are type 1, type 2 and gestational diabetes. Eating healthy, exercising regularly and taking prescribed medication can help manage diabetes.

Carbohydrates

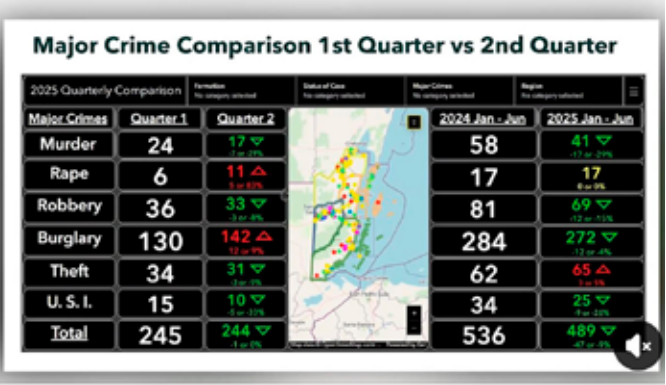
Foods that contain carbohydrates are broken down into sugar when eaten. It is important to know what foods contain carbohydrates. These include: Fruits, Dairy, Grains and Legumes, Starchy Staples & Sweets

Diabetes Diet Tips

- ♦ Eat three meals a day at regular times and not more than four hours apart. You may benefit from healthy snacks in between meals.
- ♦ Choose healthy and ideal portions of food.
- ♦ Limit sugar and sweets such as regular soft drinks, honey, candies, syrups, desserts, BBQ sauce etc. Use an artificial sweetener such as Splenda, Sweet N Low, Equal or Stevia.
- ♦ Eat whole grains such as brown rice, whole wheat bread or tortilla, corn and oats instead of white (refined) grains
- ♦ Choose low fat produce such as chicken, fish, egg, and lean beef. Remove all visible fat and skin before cooking.
- ♦ Limit fried and fatty foods. Prepare foods by steaming, boiling, grilling or baking.
- ♦ Limit salt intake. Use natural herbs and spices such as: cilantro, celery, etc.
- ♦ Drink at least 8 cups of water daily.

VOICE OF THE COMMON MAN
THE THIRTEENTH AMENDMENT BILL

Serving the First and Foremost Purpose of
Government: Security of the Country and the People
COMPSTAT shows a reduction in
Crime in Belize



The Government of Belize through the House Committee on Constitution and Foreign Affairs conducted its first consultations on the proposed 13th Amendment Bill 2025 at Swift Hall in the Saint Martin De Porres Area on Southside Belize City, on Wednesday, August 16, 2025. In attendance were members of the public, the legal profession and representatives of the NGO and Civil Society. Presentations were made by the Attorney General’s Office, the Police Department and the Leadership Intervention Unit (LIU). Both in the morning and afternoon sessions some proponents supported the legislative proposal and some rejected it. Most of the opposition came from the attorneys whose self-interest seems to trump the safety of the citizenry. Essentially, this writer considers the 13th Amendment as another mechanism added to the crime-fighting toolkit. The government intends to realise a balance between individuals’ rights and the collective rights of every Belizean to live in peace without fear. Statistics have shown that the State of Emergency (SOE) is one of the crime-fighting tools that reduces crime and violence.

The recent Computer Performance Statistics (COMPSTAT) indicated a reduction in major crimes. Under the newly appointed Commissioner of Police, Dr. Richard Rosado convened the 2nd quarter COMPSTAT meeting at the National Police Training Academy in Belmopan on Monday 14, July 2025. The meeting brought together the top brass of the law enforcement agencies to review the national crime trends and the operational performance. COMPSTAT meetings are strategic in improving accountability and policing outcomes across the country and in implementing strategies to tackle violence and to improve the safety of citizens.

According to the Minister of Home Affairs and New Growth Industries, Kareem Musa related the good news that the 2nd quarter COMPSTAT figures showed a reduction in major crimes, specifically, murder, burglary and robbery, when compared to the same period of January to June 2024. However, the concern was that in the northern region, there was a spike in crime which necessitated a prompt discussion and a plan of action to respond to the situation. About the 13th Amendment, COMPSTAT can guide in regards to “special areas”. Musa proffered that, “COMPSTAT also affords us the opportunity to strategize most importantly based on the crime trends in that we are seeing in particular areas...” Musa added that, “In certain situations retaliation can be expected and so that is one of those scenarios that can definitely result in an optic in the crime statistics increasing gang tension increasing violence and retaliation because it only takes one murder to result in three, four, five, six.”

The COMPSTAT numbers confirmed that 41 murders were committed in 2025

compared to 58 in 2024, a 29 percent decrease. Incidentally, 17 murders were reported for the period April to June. There was also a reduction in robberies, burglaries, 69 and 272 respectively with an increase in theft at 65. Unlawful sexual intercourse saw a dip from 34 to 25 with rape remaining constant at 17 which rose to 11 in the second quarter. Nonetheless, 489 major crimes were reported in 2025 compared to 536 in 2024.

According to an article from SoundThinking COMPSTAT was first introduced by the New York Police Department in the 1990s and was utilized as a performance management system that was utilized to reduce crime and to achieve other Police goals. COMPSTAT was first introduced in

2018 under the previous administration. At the time the program was launched to reduce major crime by providing accurate information, rapid resource deployment and strategic response. Unfortunately, it was put on paused due to the COVID-19 pandemic and was re-introduced by the PUP Government and the John Briceño administration. With the recent 2nd quarter figures it is clear that COMPSTAT is one of the important components in tackling crime and violence resulting in a positive outlook. It is also one of the essential tools that are provided to citizen security, and a commitment that forms a part of the mandate of PlanBelize 2.0 and the shared vision of the Prime Minister, John Briceño of a safer Belize.

By Hilly Bennet



CENTRAL BANK
of BELIZE

www.centralbank.org.bz

Public Notice

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Banknotes to Enter Circulation on 4 August 2025

Belize City, 8 July 2025: The Central Bank of Belize is pleased to announce that the new 2025 banknote series will officially enter circulation on **4 August 2025**.

The new series includes enhanced security features, updated themes, and new portraits, reflecting the nation’s heritage and safeguarding the integrity of Belize’s currency. While the banknotes will have a new look, the exchange rate remains unchanged at BZ\$2 to US\$1.

Since the design reveal in January, the Central Bank has been actively engaging schools, businesses, financial institutions, and the public through education and outreach activities. “We have worked diligently to ensure a smooth and secure rollout. We want every citizen to feel confident using the new banknotes,” said Governor Kareem Michael.

The new banknotes will be available at all domestic banks on the date of circulation. However, the new banknotes will not be available at all ATMs, as ATMs continue to be configured. All ATMs are expected to begin dispensing the new banknotes shortly after the circulation date.

Existing banknotes will remain legal tender. However, the Central Bank strongly encourages the public to deposit them at their financial institutions, so that they can be phased out of circulation.

We thank the public for their continued cooperation and support as we transition to this new series. To learn more about the new banknotes, visit **www.centralbank.org.bz**.

New Look, Same Value!

- ENDS -

ISSUED BY:
THE OFFICE OF THE
GOVERNOR
CENTRAL BANK OF BELIZE

1 GABOUREL LANE.
BELIZE CITY, BELIZE
T: +501 223 6194

MEETING THE
WONDERFUL
PEOPLE OF
PORT LOYOLA



On Monday July 15th, the Hon. Usher had a joyous time meeting numerous residents of the Port Loyola division including senior citizen Mr. George McKay, Jesmar Adolphus the joyous 6 six year boy with diverse ability, who is the son of Miss Darlene Adolphus, Devian Flores, who celebrates his birthday this month, Derrick Cadogan- one of our young campaigners for the last general election, and a group of mannerly and friendly children, who on receiving a treat, assured me that they can purchase snacks from a neighborhood store and share them among themselves without any fuss.

Following the meeting Mr. Lawrence Young -Acting Technical Services Manager, Faridi Gongora -Project Manager, and Nigel Andrews -engineering technician for BWS accompanied the Usher brothers to the area that is in urgent need of water supply. The purpose of the visit was to enable BWS to determine the infrastructure work necessary to address the needs of the residents for water service as soon as possible.

The fast developing area of Arlington Dr. Ext. was surveyed for the residents by their Area Representative Hon Gilroy Usher Hon. Usher will complete building the necessary streets for the community shortly. As a show of interest in the community, many of the residents have already acquired the title for their land, and are offering a number of necessary services in the area.

Hon. Gilroy Usher Lobbies for
POTABLE WATER IN NEW AREA OF PORT



In an effort to ensure proper access to the vital necessity of water in an area of Arlington Dr. Ext. where over 30 families reside in Port Loyola, on Tuesday morning July 16th Hon Gilroy Usher Area Representative for the division and his brother Norman Usher held a successful meeting about the concerns of the residents with CEO Cornelio Acosta of BWS.

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CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Institution: MINISTRY OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE, & SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT - GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE.

Tender: The Evaluation and Assessment of the Implementation of the Single-Use Plastics Initiative and Pollution from Plastics Regulations in Belize

The Government of Belize (GOB), through the Department of the Environment under the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change & Solid Waste Management, invites suitable **Consultants** to submit proposals for the Evaluation and Assessment of the Implementation of the Single-Use Plastics Initiative and Pollution from Plastics Regulations in Belize. **This Consultancy is for a consulting team consisting of two (2) individuals and is for a period of fifteen (15) weeks.**

The General Objective of this Consultancy is:

1. Evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of the Environmental Protection (Pollution from Plastics) Regulations and associated licensing, registration, and permitting systems.
2. Assess levels of compliance among stakeholders (importers, manufacturers, distributors, retailers) and illicit trade.
3. Determine the effectiveness of enforcement and oversight mechanisms.
4. Review standards and conformity assessment framework for bio-based products.
5. Analyse impacts from plastic pollution, inclusive of waste volumes and landfill burden; review the import data and compare with initial assessments to determine changes in import patterns, analyse data from clean-up campaigns and reports, and identify whether waste volumes and patterns have changed.

Scope of Work:

The consultancy will undertake a comprehensive assessment, including but not limited to:

The Legal and Regulatory Framework

- i. Review the current legislative framework (including licensing, permitting, exemptions, and offences).
- ii. Assess alignment with regional and international standards and obligations.
- iii. Evaluate the adequacy of definitions and classifications (e.g., biodegradable, compostable, bio-based).
- iv. Evaluate and determine the efficiency of the regulation in reducing pollution from plastics

For full Terms of Reference which lists required Qualifications, Required Methodology & Deliverable Timeline, and Submission Procedures, kindly request via email at procurement.asst@environment.gov.bz with a copy to procurement.officer@environment.gov.bz

Deadline for Submission: July 31st, 2025, no later than 10:00 a.m.



PUP, Please Help—Our Women Deserve Better

Dear Editor,
As a proud UDP supporter, I never thought I would write this—but I am begging the PUP to step in and help, because it is clear you support your women and believe in progress. Meanwhile, my party has failed the first woman ever to hold the office of Leader of the Opposition.

It is a national shame.
Hon. Tracy Panton has broken barriers, yet she receives no respect from her own. Instead of rallying behind her, she is sidelined, ignored, and disrespected. Is this the UDP’s idea of leadership? Of unity? Of progress? At this point, it seems the answer is no.

And now, again, Michael Peyrefitte resigns. How many times will he come and go before we admit there is no clear direction, no plan, and no leadership? Is this selfish greed over the country’s good? Because that is how it feels.
The PUP has shown Belize what it looks like

to empower women, to move forward with vision. I may wear red, but I can see blue doing more for women in leadership than my party. It hurts.

To my fellow UDPs: wake up. And to the PUP—keep showing us how it is done. Maybe one day, we will learn.

Sincerely,
J E
A Disheartened
UDP Supporter

Dibs on UDP Ashes

An Insult to Circuses

Circuses are structured and they have ring-masters. Circuses make money via their skills and hardwork. Circuses do not need from a Lord to keep them naughty and then insult them. The UDP is dying the most torturous of demises political parties can succumb to.... ever. Pinpointing the reason for the udp debacle is tantamount to retrieving that proverbial needle.

Is it that Barrow prepared no one to succeed him in the most selfish of arrogant decisions?

Is it that there isn’t an iota of leadership in that bitter set of people?

Is it that the udp financiers are so few that every remaining udp are hell-bent to grab a la pinata style...dibs?

Given the udp penchant to corrupt everything, it is easy to choose the latter. The udp remnants have now corrupted the process of 'How to choose a leader'.

Too many of them feel entitled to the trickle that is there. No one is planning how to develop Belize. It is all who has dibs on the ashes of the udp.

Who has the access to the little benefactor cash? Barrow chuckles!!

Knitted Knockers International gains national traction in Belize



Courtesy of Twin Girls.
Breast Amputation is a harsh treatment option for breast cancer, it leaves lifelong scars that impacts your mental and physical wellbeing. Humanity is indeed built on vanity, and whether we want to admit it or not, most of our identity is all wrapped up in our physical appearance, even more so for much younger women. The world views breast as a prominent feminine feature, so it is only natural that loss of confidence accompanies a woman’s perceived loss of femininity. Knitted Knockers aims to restore confidence by offering a comfortable and feminine fitted prostheses for breast cancer survivors.

Knitted Knockers is an all volunteer organization that provides knitted and crochet breast forms to women who have lost their breast to cancer. Knitted Knockers has active operations in 68 countries. Belize gained international recognition in June 2024 when it was added to its registry database as Twin Girls/Knitted Knockers Belize.

<https://www.knittedknockers.org/international-groups/>
Knitted Knockers are a comfortable and cost effective alternative to conventional breast prostheses, they are featherlight, colorful, and well suited for the tropics.

Twin Girls’ is a group of women volunteers who diligently engage in weaving these wonderfully made breast prostheses for women with mastectomies and lumpectomies. Currently their operative base is in Cayo at the Santa Elena Public Library. Most members meet on Tuesdays at 2pm
Continued on page 18



CENTRAL BANK
of BELIZE



CAREER OPPORTUNITY

ASSISTANT MANAGER, OFFICE OF STRATEGY MANAGEMENT

The Central Bank invites qualified individuals to join its Office of Strategy Management.

The Assistant Manager, Office of Strategy Management, is responsible for the development and administration of the communication and public relations functions, and to assist with the development and execution of the Central Bank of Belize’s strategic plan.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Assist in managing the day-to-day operations of the department, ensuring alignment of activities with strategic priorities.
- Assist with monitoring the implementation of the strategic plan and advancing appropriate recommendations to improve execution and maintain alignment.
- Effectively supervise assigned staff, preparing performance targets in line with departmental goals.
- Lead the development and execution of the communication strategy to enhance stakeholder engagement, public confidence and the Bank’s reputation.
- Serve as Secretariat for the Central Bank’s Communications Committee to promote knowledge-sharing and internal collaboration.
- Oversee the implementation of internal and external communication strategies, ensuring clarity, consistency and alignment with the Bank’s brand.
- Serve as key liaison to media, managing inquiries and promoting accurate coverage of the Bank’s initiatives.
- Lead the administration of the Bank’s digital platforms and continuously improve the communication channels.
- Monitor local and international media and digital platforms to identify emerging issues and opportunities for improved communication.
- Update and maintain a crisis communication plan to ensure coordinated and credible messaging during times of uncertainty.

The applicant should possess the following:

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

- Preferred qualification: a master’s degree in mass communication or a related field from a recognised university, with at least three (3) years of relevant experience.
- A minimum of a bachelor’s degree in mass communication or a related field from a recognised university with at least five (5) years of relevant experience.

TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE

- Knowledge of the Central Bank Act, Government Guidelines for public sector administration, Bank’s policies and procedures, and business and management principles; Excellent communication skills and ability to collaborate with a broad cross section of stakeholders; Knowledge of basic management information systems; and proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite.

COMPETENCIES

- Analytical Ability, Communication, Customer Focus, Digital Ability, Initiative, Interpersonal Relations, Organisational Ability, Problem Solving, Quality of Output, Decision Making, Delegation and Empowerment, Strategic Management.

Submit the following documents by **Wednesday, 16 July 2025:**

- Central Bank Employment Form (available online)
- Curriculum Vitae
- Copies of university transcripts, degrees, and any other personal certificates
- Two (2) current references (one must be from a previous employer)

Applications should be addressed to:

Manager, Human Resources Department
Central Bank of Belize
P O Box 852 or Gabourel Lane
Belize City, BELIZE

Ref: Assistant Manager, Office of Strategy Management

Email: hr@centralbank.org.bz or online at www.centralbank.org.bz
(All applications will be held in strict confidence.)

Belize Youth Movement (BYM) Hosting Mentoring Session in Dangriga

On June 28, 2025, the Belize Youth Movement (BYM) National Executive conducted a successful mentoring session with the Executive Members of the BYM Dangriga Chapter. Held in a hybrid format (both in-person and online), the session aimed to strengthen the leadership capacity of the local chapter and equip them with the tools needed to operate effectively and confidently.

The session focused on building leadership skills and grassroots activism among young leaders. Participants were introduced to the foundational principles of the People’s United Party, the internal structure of BYM, and the roles and responsibilities expected of local chapter executives. Training topics also included strategies for meaningful community engagement and the effective use of social media as a tool for advocacy and mobilization.

National Executive Members shared their insights and experiences, offering practical guidance on mobilizing youth and engaging communities at the grassroots level. A key highlight of the session was an interactive group activity, where participants identified pressing issues in their communities and collaborated to develop practical, youth-led solutions. The aim was to empower young leaders to take initiative, build active and accountable chapters, and play a vital role in national development.

Furthermore, Honorable Dr. Louis Zabaneh joined the BYM team for a lunch meet & greet that brought a personal and powerful touch to the day. It was not a formal speech, but a genuine conversation with real vibes. Dr. Zabaneh shared stories from his upbringing in the Stann Creek District, speaking openly about the struggles and small victories that shaped him as a son of the South. The setting gave the Dangriga Chapter a chance to connect with him on a personal level, not just as a politician but as someone who understands their journey. He encour-

Making Belize More Accessible *New Nonstop Flight: Montreal to Belize!*



In Belize, we can argue that the BTB and Hon. Anthony Mahler had a direct hand in releasing Belize from the fear of Covid-19. The deliberate wooing of flights to come into Belize has itself been non-stop as flights had to be reestablished; it was not automatic. With the effort, new destinations not in the flight schedules before the pandemic were now issuing boarding passes at the Philip Goldson International Airport. With 250 million slated to be spent in upgrading the PGIA there will be a tremendous increase in travel activity. There will soon be need for an even broader plan beyond the 250M.

This July 9 via their social media platforms, the Belize Tourism Board, in partnership with Air Canada, announced a new nonstop flight from Montréal-Trudeau (YUL) to Belize (BZE) starting December 8, 2025.

This is the first direct air service between Montreal and Belize which also allows for same-day connections from over 20 European cities including London, Paris, Amsterdam, Frankfurt, Madrid, Rome, Lisbon, Zurich, and Vienna.

Flight schedule:
* YUL - BZE, AC 1876: Mondays, 5:45 PM – 10:05 PM
* BZE - YUL, AC 1877: Tuesdays, 11:00 AM – 4:40 PM

This service builds on Air Canada’s existing Toronto-Belize route and makes Belize more accessible to the world.



aged the BYM team to stay grounded in service to keep building and fighting for their communities and to always keep the betterment of the People of Belize at the heart of everything they do, both as individuals and as a collective.

The day concluded with a team-building exercise in which the Dangriga Chapter outlined its vision, goals, and commitments for the future. The Belize Youth Movement remains steadfast in its mission to empower young people, strengthen democratic engagement, and advance the interests of Belizean youth across the country.

The Belize Youth Movement remains committed to empowering young leaders and advancing the interests of Belizean youth across the country.



GENERAL PROCUREMENT NOTICE

SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE URBAN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM LOAN CONTACT NO.5877/OC-BL

Institution: Ministry of Finance
Country: Belize, Central America
Project: Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Development Program
Loan Number: BL-L1046
Loan Contract No.: 5877/OC-BL
Sector: Urban Development and Housing - Neighborhood Upgrading

The Government of Belize has received financing in the amount of USD 12,500,000 from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and intends to utilize the funds for eligible payments related to the procurement of goods, works, related services, and consulting services under the "Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Development" program. This project has received USD 10,000,000 in the form of a loan and the additional USD 2,500,000 in the form of a grant.

The overarching goal is to contribute to the sustainable urban development of municipalities of northern Belize. The specific objectives are: (i) to improve access to selected urban services; (ii) to support local economic growth; and (iii) to facilitate the social and economic integration of vulnerable populations, such as migrant population and women.

The Ministry of Finance invites interested bidders to access the full version of this General Procurement Notice online at <https://mof.gov.bz/procurement-opportunities/> or by scanning the QR code below.

Subject – Request for information – Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Development – BL-L1046

ATTN:
Procurement Specialist
Ministry of Finance
2nd Floor, Sir Edney Cain Building, Belmopan
Tel: 501-822-4106
procurement@ceu.mof.gov.bz



Knitted Knockers International gains national traction in Belize

Continued from page 16

on a weekly basis to assist in the stuffing, packaging, labeling, and distribution of these confidence building breast forms. Some members enjoy the option of working from the comfort of their homes. Twin Girls hope to connect with knitters and crocheters countrywide to fill the recurring need of women with mastectomies in Belize.

Twin Girls actively seeks engagement and promotions to bring an awareness of breast cancer, we are only too cognizant of the stigma surrounding cancer and amputation of the breast. This is a very sensitive and vulnerable topic and we are respectful of each individual's privacy and boundaries. The decision to share, or not, is a personal one, we are not critical of either. However Twin Girls make a conscious effort to share personal experiences, in the hopes to inspire, motivate and possible save lives. We do so through our Share Journey Presentations and our Breast Cancer Awareness pop-up events.

Since starting in June 2024, Twin Girls' has gifted breast forms to hospitals, oncology units, and cancer centers throughout Belize. Several breast cancer survivors also had their customizable post surgical breast forms request filled.

Twin Girls is the authorized distributor of Knitted Knockers breast forms. Knitted Knockers are never sold, it is gifted, free of cost to breast cancer survivors. Knitted Knockers are made from soft, hypoallergenic materials which have been vetted and approved.

Twin Girls/Knitted Knockers Belize seeks community engagement in support of sisters challenging breast cancer and coping with the lifelong effects of breast removal.

We advocate strongly for breast self examination and routine testing as early detection can save lives. We encourage our sisters of strength to pickup free knockers at the following locations or contact us directly by phone and WhatsApp at 501.631.5540 and on Facebook at

Twin Girls - Breast Prostheses <https://www.facebook.com/share/g/1FUwmYVH8W/> and

Twin Girls - Knitted Knockers Belize <https://www.facebook.com/share/g/1LThoJg9Nt/>

Current pickup locations for free of cost breast forms are - Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital in Belize City, Orange Walk Cancer Center, Cancer Center of Dangriga, St Luke Hospital in Belmopan, and La Loma Luz Hospital in Cayo.

We invite the public at large to support our cause by the following means.

Share our information on your outreach platform.

Advocate on our behalf as we are here to offer a cost effective alternative in breast prostheses. Volunteer; we are hoping for knitters and crocheters, but welcome others with skillset to further our mission.

Educate about breast cancer prevention, and early detection, as it can save lives, and

Donate, we accept financial donations, and donations of approved products. Donations of your media network, public spaces and conference rooms to promote our mission will not be refused.

Join us as we aim to make comfortable, cost effective, climate friendly, confidence builders easily accessible to every woman who needs them.



Specific Procurement Notice One (1) Ambulance Nº CABEI-G-002-2147/2025 One Stage-One Envelope

July 11th, 2025.

1. SOURCE OF RESOURCES

The Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI), as part of the services it provides to its beneficiary partner countries, is granting total funding for the Procurement of One (1) Ambulance within the framework of the **Belize Integral Security Programme (BISP)**.

2. EXECUTING AGENCY AND BUYER OF THE BIDDING PROCESS

2.1 Buyer's background

The Executing Body (EB) for the BISP is the Ministry of Finance, Investment, **Economic Transformation**, Civil Aviation & E-Governance. The Ministry of Economic Transformation will be responsible for the execution of the Programme and all its components, reporting all progress to CABEI and ensuring the execution of each component under the terms established for CABEI formulation and approval. The execution of BISP components will be carried out by the Co-Executors: Belize Police Department, Belize Defense Force, Belize Coast Guard and National Forensic Science Services.

2.2 The **Ministry of Economic Transformation** is responsible for the present Procurement process for which it invites suppliers of goods and services to submit bids for this procurement in a sealed envelope.

2.3 The Supplier will be selected and awarded in accordance with the procedures of the Central American Bank for Economic Integration as established in the Procurement Policy for Procurement of Goods, Works, Services and Consultancies with CABEI resources and its Regulations, (DI-52/2020 and PRE-18/2024) which can be found on the following web site: <https://www.bciei.org>.

3. PRESENTATION OF THE PROCUREMENT PROCESS

3.1 General Objectives of the Procurement: acquisition of One Ambulance.

3.2 The Buyer makes available to interested parties all the documentation related to this Procurement necessary for the preparation of bids.

a. For download on the Ministry of Economic Transformation's Website: www.met.gov.bz/bisp-tenders and the Ministry of Finance's Procurement Portal <https://procurement.gov.bz/opportunities/>

b. Additional information regarding the preparation of proposals can be communicated by email to: procurementofficerll.bisp@med.gov.bz and copied to projectcoordinator.bisp@med.gov.bz, ambulancebdf_g002.bisp@met.ov.bz

3.3 Bids for this invitation to bid shall be received no later than **August 12th, 2025, until 10:00 a.m.** at the following physical address listed below:

3.4 Bids must be sent to the address below, and bids will not be permitted in electronic form. **No late bids will be accepted.** Bids shall be opened publicly, in the presence of the representatives designated by the Bidder, at the address listed below, at **10:15 a.m. on August 12th, 2025.**

3.5 All Bids must be accompanied by a **"Bid Maintenance Declaration"**.

3.6 The address referred to above is:

Project Coordinator
Belize Integral Security Programme
#1904 Constitution Drive, 2nd Floor, Unit 3
Belmopan City, Cayo District
Belize, Central America
Telephone Number (822-0156)

Ref. Supply and Delivery of One (1) Ambulance - BISP (Nº CABEI-G-002-2147/2025)



GEF6 PROJECT Vacancies Notice

Institution: MINISTRY OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT, GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE.

The **Integrated Management of Production Landscapes to Deliver Multiple Global Environmental Benefits (GEF6) Project** within the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Solid Waste Management (MSDCCSWM) in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is calling for qualified and interested individuals for the Positions of an M&E and Safeguards Specialist, and a Gender Specialist.

➤ Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) and Safeguards Specialist:

- Responsible for ensuring effective project monitoring and evaluation, compliance with safeguards, and contributing to knowledge management efforts. The primary goal is to track project progress, assess impacts, and ensure adherence to environmental and social safeguards.

➤ Gender Specialist:

- Tasked with responsibility for the implementation of the Gender Action Plan for the project as well as supporting the MSDCCSWM in promoting gender inclusive approaches in its programs and projects with specific focus on the GEF.

Project Background:

The Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Solid Waste Management (MSDCCSWM) in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is implementing a project entitled "Integrated management of production landscapes to deliver multiple global environmental benefits." This project aims to mainstream biodiversity conservation and sustainable land/water management into production landscapes in Belize, specifically targeting the Belize River watershed (BRW). This initiative, funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and UNDP TRAC, seeks to reverse the fragmentation of forest ecosystems, biodiversity loss, and land degradation within production landscapes in the BRW. The project emphasizes gender equality and inclusive participation, recognizing the crucial role of women in agricultural development and sustainable natural resource management. This project will deliver global environmental benefits (GEB) using a participatory approach that ensures the equal distribution of benefits among men and women, with 1,700 people directly benefiting from the project.



MINISTRY
OF
INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT
AND
HOUSING



PROCUREMENT NOTICE

SUPPLY OF HEAVY-DUTY EQUIPMENT TO THE MIDH

The Government of Belize (GOB), through the Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing (MIDH), intends to procure the following heavy-duty equipment:

- 3 Rollers**
 - Operating Weight: 23,000 – 25,000 Lbs.
 - Minimum Engine Power: 120 – 135 HP
 - Centrifugal Force: 230 – 250 kN
- 2 Bulldozers**
 - 6 Way Tilt Blade: 4.5 C.Y.
 - Minimum Engine Power: 170 – 185 HP
 - Operating Weight: 35000 – 38000 Lbs.
- 3 Water Trucks with Tank**
 - Configuration/Wheel Drive: 6 x 4
 - Rated Load Capacity: 12 – 18 Tons
 - Engine Type: 6 Cylinder in Line
 - Displacement: 7 – 8 L
 - Water Tank Capacity: 14,000 – 15,000 L
- 2 Tow Head with Trailer**
 - Configuration/Wheel Drive: 6 x 4
 - Engine Type: 6 Cylinder in Line
 - Displacement: 15 L
 - Horse Power: 350 – 400 HP
 - Wet Kit for Lowboy Trailer: PTO Included
 - Trailer: Triple Axle
 - Loading Capacity: Minimum 60 Tons
 - Type: Detachable Goose Neck
- 2 Graders**
 - Operating Weight: 35,000 – 40,000 Lbs.
 - Engine Power: 170 – 200 HP
 - Mold Board: 14 Feet
 - Ripper/Scarifier:
 - Enclosed Cabin with A/C
- 2 Tractors with Boom Mower, Flail Head and Rotary Head**
 - Engine: 4 cylinders, turbocharger, and intercooler
 - Power: 120 – 140 HP
 - Drive: 4-Wheel Drive
 - Flail Head: 1 – 2" Cutting Capacity, 39 – 47" Cutting Width
 - Rotary Head: 4" Cutting Capacity, 60" Cutting Width

The MIDH hereby invites interested suppliers to be a part of this bidding process. A maximum of six months will be allowed to the successful supplier to deliver the heavy-duty equipment to the MIDH compound in Belmopan.

Bidders have the flexibility to bid on individual items, multiple items, or the entire list of equipment. Bidders may also offer discounts or package pricing for multiple items and this must be explicitly stated in their financial offer.

- In your proposal, kindly include the following information:
- Company Incorporation / Business Registration Documents
 - Copy of Good Standing Certificates from Companies Registry, Belize Tax Services and Social Security (3 certificates total)

All financial proposals (including specifications for each equipment) should reach the office of the Chief Engineer / Engineering Co-ordinator at the address below no later than **Wednesday 13 August 2025 at 10:00 am**. Late submissions will not be accepted under any circumstances. The Ministry shall not accept responsibility for any costs incurred by the applicants.

Attention: **Mr. Evondale Moody**
Chief Engineer / Engineering Coordinator
Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing
Power Lane
Belmopan
BELIZE C.A.

Tel: +501-828-5221
Email: peu@midh.gov.bz



REQUEST FOR BIDS (RFB)

Supply and Delivery of Vehicle – Pickup Truck

Institution: Ministry of Finance
Country: Belize
Project: Digital Innovation to Boost Economic Development in Belize
Process ID: BL-L1039-P00039
Deadline: August 4, 2025; 10:00 a.m. (Local Belize Time)

The Government of Belize (GOB) has received loan financing from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) for the execution of the Project “Digital Innovation to Boost Economic Development in Belize”.

The Ministry of Finance, through its Central Executing Unit, intends to allocate a portion of the project’s proceeds for the **Supply and Delivery of one (1) Pickup Truck**.

The Ministry of Finance invites individuals to access the extended version of this Request for Bid (RFB) and Bidding Document, which may be accessed online at <https://mof.gov.bz/procurement-opportunities/> or by scanning the QR code below, and to submit application packages in accordance with the instructions provided in the full version.

ATTN: Karon Hamilton
Procurement Specialist
Ministry of Finance
2nd Floor, Sir Edney Cain Building, Belmopan
Tel: 501-822-4106
procurement@ceu.mof.gov.bz



BELIZEPROPERTYAUCTIONS.COM
COUNTRYWIDE PUBLIC AUCTION SALE: VEHICLE
Belize City, Belize District

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via belizepropertyauctions.com the following vehicle. Sale currently running and will expire fortnightly on the dates and times listed on the website until the vehicle is sold.



“FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & PHOTOGRAPHS PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE”

TERMS: STRICTLY CASH
KEVIN A. CASTILLO
TELEPHONE 223-4488
Website: belizepropertyauctions.com
E-mail: kevinacas@yahoo.com
Facebook: Belize Auction

BELIZEPROPERTYAUCTIONS.COM
COUNTRYWIDE PUBLIC AUCTION SALE: PROPERTY
Lords Bank Village, Belize District

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees Messrs. Heritage Bank Limited, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via belizepropertyauctions.com the following property. Sale currently running until and will expire fortnightly on the date and time listed on the website until the property is sold.

Parcel No. 3145 Lords Bank Village, Belize District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Lords Bank	16	3145
The freehold property of Mr. Earl Garcia.		

“FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & PHOTOGRAPHS PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE”

TERMS: STRICTLY CASH
KEVIN A. CASTILLO
TELEPHONE 223-4488
Website: belizepropertyauctions.com
E-mail: kevinacas@yahoo.com
Facebook: Belize Auction

BY ORDER OF CHARGE
NOTICE OF INTENTION TO SELL

HOLY REDEEMER CREDIT UNION LIMITED a statutory body formed and registered under the Credit Union Act, Chapter 314 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, and whose registered office is situated at No. 1 Hyde’s Lane, Belize City, Belize District hereby gives notice of its intention to exercise its power of sale as Chargee under and by virtue of a Charge registered at the Land Registry between **LORE LOREASE BUTLER** of the one part and HRCU of the other part.

HRCU will at the expiration of three months from the date of the first publication of this notice sell the property described in the Schedule below.

ALL offers to purchase the said property must be made in writing to Holy Redeemer Credit Union Limited from whom full particulars and conditions of sale may be obtained.

SCHEDULE

ALL THAT piece or parcel of land comprising 0.787 Acre being Parcel 5293, Block 16 in the Ladyville/Lord’s Bank Registration Section located at No. 5293 Lake Gardens, Ladyville, Belize District **TOGETHER** with all buildings and erections standing and being thereon, the freehold property of **LORE LOREASE BUTLER**

DATED this 7th day of July 2025

HOLY REDEEMER CREDIT UNION LIMITED
1 HYDE’S LANE, BELIZE CITY, BELIZE
Phone: (501) 280-5644
Fax: (501) 223-0738
E-mail: foreclosures@hrcubelize.org
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/hrcuforeclosure/>

PUBLIC NOTICE

Lodgement of Supplemental Information and Public Consultation
For
Sarteneja-South Winds Limited
For a proposed Subdivision and Tourism Development, Sarteneja Village, Corozal District

The general public is hereby informed that supplemental information complementing the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report for a proposed subdivision and tourism development project located near Sarteneja Village, Corozal District, has been submitted by Sarteneja South Winds Limited to the Department of the Environment (DOE). The EIA report was prepared by Sustainable Development Consulting Services. The EIA report and its supplemental information will be reviewed by the National Environmental Appraisal Committee (NEAC) before a final decision is taken by the DOE.

The general public is also informed that the EIA report and its supplemental information are available for public review, free of charge, from July 2nd to July 31st, 2025 (Monday- Friday) during normal working hours (8:00 am to 5:00 pm) at the following locations:

- At Sarteneja Village at the house of the Chairman,
- At Chunox Village at the house of the Chairman, and
- The DOE’s office at 7552 Hummingbird Highway, Belmopan.

The EIA report and its supplemental information are also available on the DOE’s website at the links: https://doe.gov.bz/?post_type=wpdmpro&p=17043&preview=true and https://doe.gov.bz/?post_type=wpdmpro&p=17044&preview=true
The public is invited to submit their comments in writing on or before 31st July 2025, to the DOE Office in Belmopan or email: envirodept@environment.gov.bz; ciaunit@environment.gov.bz and link: <https://forms.gle/gpeSSYL2FL21FJDk8>

Kindly be informed that a hybrid (in-person and virtual) public consultation for the supplemental information will be held on July 24th, 2025, commencing at 6:00 pm. The in-person consultation will be held at the Sarteneja Village Almendro Park, Corozal District and an online link will be provided near to the date for those who will participate virtually. The consultation will also be streamed live via the Government of Belize Press Office Facebook Page.

The General Public is invited to attend in person or participate online, to make comments, ask questions, seek clarification, and/or provide input with regard to this proposed project.



Resilient Bold Belize WWF GEF Blue and Green Islands IP Child Project Blue Bond and Finance Permanence Unit

TERMS OF REFERENCE: SAFEGUARDS AND GENDER OFFICER

Background

As part of the Blue and Green Islands GEF8 Integrated program, the Resilient Bold Belize project aims to secure the long-term conservation and resilience of Belize's marine and coastal ecosystems, promoting nature-based livelihoods and the wellbeing of Belizeans.

The Belize project will catalyze a Project Finance for Permanence (PFP) initiative, a major private-public partnership, led by the Blue Bond and Finance Permanence Unit within the Office of Prime Minister. The PFP will integrate the value of nature into the tourism and fisheries sectors, strengthen policy coherence, institutional capacity for gender inclusive conservation planning, and strengthen capacities for financial planning and domestic resource mobilization.

Under the overall supervision and guidance of the GEF Project Manager, the Safeguards and Gender Officer will be responsible for the implementation and monitoring of the project's Gender Action Plan (GAP), Environmental and Social Management Framework / Process Framework (ESMF/PF), and Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP). The Officer will also oversee the integration of environmental and social safeguards across all project components, ensuring that community engagement is conducted in an inclusive, equitable, and culturally sensitive manner.

The Officer will work closely with the Monitoring, Evaluation, and Knowledge Management (MEK) Officer on project implementation, reporting, monitoring, and evaluation, ensuring that safeguard and gender-related dimensions are fully integrated. The Safeguards and Gender Officer will supervise community engagement activities throughout the life of the project and serve as a key advisor to the PMU on all safeguard and gender matters.

Roles and Responsibilities

Gender

- Lead and track implementation of the Gender Action Plan (GAP), under the supervision of the Project Manager.
- Collaborate with the MEK Officer to ensure gender considerations are fully incorporated into project monitoring, reporting, and evaluation systems.
- Review annual work plans and budgets, providing recommendations to ensure effective gender mainstreaming across all project activities.
- Provide ongoing guidance during project implementation to address any emerging gender-related issues.
- Work with the Project Manager to design methodologies and plans for gender-sensitive activities in collaboration with technical specialists.
- Contribute inputs to support the Results Framework and annual work plan tracking for the WWF-GEF Project.
- Participate in project management meetings and reflection workshops, offering strategic inputs for adaptive management from a gender perspective.

Environmental and Social Safeguards

- Lead the implementation of safeguard procedures outlined in the ESMF; develop additional safeguards documentation where necessary; and ensure their review, approval, and disclosure.
- Ensure that all safeguard-related documents (ESMF, PF, IPPF) are up to date, implemented effectively, and accessible to relevant stakeholders.
- Review annual work plans and budgets to ensure alignment with safeguard measures and recommend strategies to avoid or mitigate potential social and environmental risks.
- Monitor safeguard compliance among contractors and partners, ensuring that agreed mitigation actions are applied and documented in the event of noncompliance.
- Support executing and implementing partners in securing environmental clearance certificates in accordance with national and WWF requirements.
- Prepare documentation needed to comply with environmental regulations and safeguard standards as per the project timeline.
- Develop and implement a simple Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) monitoring checklist for use by project staff, including templates for data collection and management.
- Provide strategic oversight into environmental and social safeguard measures during project implementation and advise the PMU on appropriate responses to risks or issues.

Stakeholder Engagement

- Coordinate and monitor the implementation of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) under the supervision of the Project Manager.
- Facilitate communication and coordination with local governments, subcontractors, and community groups to support environmental compliance and social inclusion.
- Lead the establishment and operation of a functional Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) to ensure timely and effective handling of community feedback and complaints.

Technical Delivery of Project Components

Component 1: Establishing conditions for implementing the Project Finance for Permanence (PFP) initiative

This component aims to support long-term, co-managed marine and coastal protected areas and ecosystems. Within this component, the Safeguards and Gender Officer will:

- Provide technical assistance to the PFP Coordination Unit in developing the Conservation Plan, including gender-responsive safeguards and mitigation measures.
- Analyze capacity gaps in environmental and social safeguards and gender inclusion within partner organizations.
- Support capacity building for the PMU, government ministries, protected area co-managers, the CTF, community stakeholders, and private sector partners.
- Deliver training to strengthen institutional safeguards and promote gender-sensitive implementation across project activities.

Overall

- Assess capacity-building needs of project staff and partners in the areas of environmental and social safeguards, stakeholder engagement, and gender.
- Deliver training and provide ongoing support to enhance implementation of the SEP, GAP, and ESMF/PF.
- Participate in field missions, technical site visits, and partner meetings to ensure compliance with relevant policies and procedures.
- Recommend indicators and contribute to the integration of safeguards and gender into the project's monitoring and evaluation framework.
- Record and report on safeguard- and gender-related field activities and contribute to quarterly, semiannual, and annual project progress reports in collaboration with the Project Manager.

Qualifications and Requirements

- A bachelor's degree in gender studies, gender and development, environmental science, sustainable development, social sciences, or a related field.
- An advanced degree in the above-mentioned disciplines is highly desirable.
- At least five years of practical experience in gender mainstreaming, women's empowerment, community engagement, and/or environmental and social safeguards in Belize and/or the Caribbean region.
- Demonstrated understanding of the intersection between gender, social inclusion, and sustainable development.
- Familiarity with relevant national legislation and international frameworks for environmental and social safeguards, including gender integration standards.
- Experience in gender-responsive capacity building, stakeholder engagement, and participatory planning.
- Previous experience working on donor-funded projects, especially with GEF or WWF, is an asset.
- Experience working with local communities, traditional leaders, marginalized groups, and government officials in multi-sectoral teams.
- Strong conflict resolution and community mediation skills.
- Excellent analytical, writing, facilitation, and communication skills.
- Fluency in written and spoken English is required; proficiency in Spanish is an asset.
- Willingness to travel extensively within the project area.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office and other relevant software tools.

Duty Station: Belize City

Payment Arrangements: The salary of the contract is commensurate with experience and qualifications.

The estimated Starting Date and Duration: Start date will be effective at contract signature. Contracts are renewed biannually based on an assessment of performance. This position requires full-time commitment.

Interested persons can send an Application Letter, CV and recent police report along with three references to email: RBBPM.bbfunit@opm.gov.bz or printed to the following address by **Friday, 25th July 2025 no later than 4:00 p.m.**

**3rd Floor, Eleanor Hall Building
Lake Independence Boulevard
Belize City**

Applications will be reviewed by the Selection Committee. Those short-listed will be invited to an interview with the Committee. Due diligence will be done to validate the information included in the CV and provided during interviews.



**Resilient Bold Belize
WWF GEF Blue and Green Islands IP Child Project
Blue Bond and Finance Permanence Unit**

**TERMS OF REFERENCE:
FINANCIAL ASSISTANT**

Background

As part of the Blue and Green Islands GEF8 Integrated program, the Resilient Bold Belize project aims to secure the long-term conservation and resilience of Belize’s marine and coastal ecosystems, promoting nature-based livelihoods and the wellbeing of Belizeans.

The Belize project will catalyze a Project Finance for Permanence (PFP) initiative, a major private-public partnership, led by the Blue Bond and Finance Permanence Unit within the Office of Prime Minister. The PFP will integrate the value of nature into the tourism and fisheries sectors, strengthen policy coherence, institutional capacity for gender inclusive conservation planning, and strengthen capacities for financial planning and domestic resource mobilization. The proposed PFP approach will foster impactful outcomes resulting in improved management coastal PAs, MPAs, plus mangrove and other coastal ecosystems outside of the formal PA system, and improvement of targeted communities’ livelihoods

The Financial Assistant (FA) under this project will be responsible for managing and supporting all financial and operational aspects of the Project, including supporting with procurement, administrative financial procedures, financial tracking and reporting, and ensuring compliance with the financial requirements of WWF, the GEF Agency, and the Government of Belize.

The FA will report directly to the Project Manager on day-to-day responsibilities and project execution matters and will provide timely support. The role provides financial and administrative assistance to and oversight of program staff and grantees to ensure that budgets and agreements are handled in accordance with WWF policies, procedures, systems, and donor requirements.

Roles and Responsibilities:

- Keep records of project funds and expenditures and ensure all project-related financial documentation is well maintained and readily available when required by the Project Manager.
- Reviews project expenditures and ensure that project funds are used in compliance with the Project Document and Government of Belize financial rules and procedures.
- Validates and certifies payments before submission to the Finance Officer.
- Provides necessary financial information when required for project management decisions.
- Reviews annual budgets and project expenditure reports and notify the Project Manager if there are any discrepancies or issues.
- Consolidates financial progress reports for the implementation of project activities.
- Liaises and follows up with executing partners regarding project fund disbursement and financial progress reports.
- Assists the Project Manager in the day-to-day management and oversight of project activities.
- Assists the M&E and Safeguards Officer in matters related to monitoring, evaluation, and knowledge resource management.
- Ensure all project documentation (e.g., progress reports, consultant and technical reports, meeting minutes) is properly maintained in both hard and electronic copies in an efficient and accessible filing system, for use by the Project Board, UNDP, consultants, and PMU staff.
- Prepares, administers, and maintains the GEF project budget, ensuring data accuracy and current financial records. Reviews and monitors the status of the budget against the annual work plan. Ensure spending levels are appropriate, and coding is correct. Identifies problems, recommends corrective action, assists in budget revisions, and communicates issues to the Project Manager. Ensures GEF requirements are met, including adherence to the budget structure outlined in the Project Document, and that all expenses are associated with incremental costs.
- Coordinates and prepares financial reports for submission to the WWF GEF Agency, ensuring compliance with GEF requirements.
- Supports, prepares, and monitors grant and consultant agreements to ensure compliance with agreement terms. Ensures agreements and payments are processed timely and in accordance with WWF and Government of Belize policies and audit requirements.
- Prepares paperwork for approval, secures signatures, and distributes documents to relevant parties.
- Reviews and analyzes subrecipient financial reports to ensure compliance with WWF-US and GEF Agency reporting requirements, including project partner co-financing. Notifies grantees of discrepancies and provides technical assistance to resolve issues.
- Supports WWF GEF Agency annual supervision missions by providing required documentation and assistance.
- Assists with mid-term and final independent evaluations by providing financial information and feedback where relevant, and ensures corrective actions related to financial matters are implemented based on evaluation recommendations.
- Maintains records and files on all financial and administrative aspects of the project, including agreements. Regularly monitors compliance with WWF reporting requirements and project deadlines, and ensures reports are acknowledged and routed appropriately.
- Provides support for daily administrative operations and coordination of special projects.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

Core Competencies

- Ability to manage budgets, monitor expenditures, prepare financial reports, validate payments, and ensure compliance with donor and government financial procedures.
- Proficient in maintaining comprehensive, well-structured financial and administrative records to support audits, evaluations, and reporting.
- Advanced skills in Microsoft Excel and experience with accounting systems such as QuickBooks.
- Effective written and verbal communicator who can liaise with executing partners and prepare clear documentation for diverse stakeholders.
- Experienced in processing payments, drafting financial documentation, ensuring compliance with procurement procedures, and coordinating project logistics.
- Works collaboratively within a multidisciplinary team to achieve project goals, while remaining adaptable, accountable, and focused on high-quality service delivery.

Qualifications and Requirements

The Project Finance Assistant will be recruited based on the following qualifications:

- A Bachelor degree or an advanced diploma in accounting/ financial management.
- Certification in accounting or bookkeeping (such as CAT, ACCA Level 1 or higher) will be considered an asset.
- At least five years of relevant work experience, preferably in a project management setting involving a multi-lateral/ international funding agency.
- Proficiency in the use of computer software applications, particularly MS Excel.
- Excellent language skills in English (writing, speaking and reading).

Duty Station: Belize City

Payment Arrangements: The salary of the contract is commensurate with experience and qualifications.

The estimated Starting Date and Duration: Start date will be effective at contract signature. Contracts are renewed biannually based on an assessment of performance. This position requires full-time commitment.

Interested persons can send an Application Letter, CV and recent police report along with three references to email: RBBPM.bbfunit@opm.gov.bz or printed to the following address by **Friday, 25th July 2025 no later than 4:00 p.m.**

**3rd Floor, Eleanor Hall Building
Lake Independence Boulevard
Belize City**

Applications will be reviewed by the Selection Committee. Those shortlisted will be invited to an interview with the Committee. Due diligence will be done to validate the information included in the CV and provided during interviews.



NOTICE TO TAX DEFAULTERS

Pursuant to **Section 64A of the Tax Administration and Procedure Act, Cap 51, Revised Edition 2020, as amended by Act 19 of 2021**, the Director General of the Belize Tax Service Department hereby serves formal notice to tax defaulters with outstanding arrears due to the Government of Belize.

NAME	BUSINESS NATURE	LOCATION	TAX TYPE	AMOUNT OWED
HLB BELIZE, LLP	Accounting, auditing and tax consultancy	BELIZE CITY	Business Tax and GST	\$2,674,501.20
MAYATULUM GREAT DESTINATIONS	Construction of buildings	CAYE CAULKER	Business Tax and GST	\$75,934.69
LORENA YASMIN CERVANTES	Restaurants and mobile food service activities	BELIZE CITY	Business Tax	\$3,878.53
JOSEPH MEIGHAN t/a J AND B'S SECURITY SERVICE	Security system services activities	BELIZE CITY	Business Tax and GST	\$ 462,348.71
WALLACE DONAHUE TILLET	Architectural & Engineering activities	BELIZE CITY	Business Tax	\$ 229,415.88
BOSCO SUPERMARKET LTD	Supermarket retailing in sales of goods	BELIZE CITY	Business Tax and GST	\$ 59,774.47
IMASA PAINTS BELIZE COMPANY LIMITED	Retail sale in Paints	BELIZE CITY	Business Tax and GST	\$ 109,464.54
GRIDPOINT LAND SURVEYING LIMITED	Architectural & Engineering Consulting Activities	BELMOPAN	Business Tax and GST	\$ 45,514.55
MARINE & SERVICES LIMITED	Water Transportation & Freight Services	BELIZE CITY	Business Tax, GST, PAYE	\$ 760,019.11
MILTON PAULINO T/A PAULINO'S FUNERAL HOME	Funeral Activities	STANN CREEK	Business Tax and GST	\$ 138,049.64
DENVOR FAIRWEATHER T/A 13 PRODUCTIONS	Motion Picture, Video and television Production Activities	BELIZE CITY	Business Tax and GST	\$ 176,630.76
CP BUILDINGS LIMITED	Construction of Buildings	BELIZE CITY	Business Tax and GST	\$ 390,301.29
GWEN'S KITCHEN 2**	Restaurant & Food Mobile Services	BELIZE CITY	BT and GST	\$ 82,257.53
FLOR DE LOS ANGELES MELARA t/a JULIE'S CORN TORTILLA	Restaurant & Food Mobile Services	BELIZE CITY	Business Tax	\$ 6,727.15
HEATHER DAWN LESLIE t/a DIS N' DAT CORNER	Retail Sales in non-specialized Stores	BELIZE CITY	Business Tax and GST	\$ 41,609.91
ECO FRIENDLY SOLUTIONS LIMITED	Retail sale in ecofriendly products	BELIZE CITY	Business Tax, GST and, PAYE	\$ 855,056.79
MARK NEAL T/A BODY 2000	other sport activities	BELIZE CITY	Business Tax and GST	\$ 124,265.87
MICHELLE RUDON t/a GENESIS ARTS	Other professional activities	BELIZE CITY	Business Tax and GST	\$ 107,095.26
SMOQIZ BISTRO	Restaurant & Food Mobile Services	PLACENCIA	Business Tax and GST	\$ 44,915.08
DENICE LEE RYAN t/a BLACK PEARL RESTAURANT	Restaurant & Food Mobile Services	SAN PEDRO	Business Tax and GST	\$ 477,925.82
NORTHERN FISHERMEN COOPERATIVE SOCIETY**	Marine Fishing	BELIZE CITY	Business Tax and GST	\$ 8,749,067.24
ANDREW MUNNINGS t/a MUNNINGS FUNERAL SERVICES	Funeral and live streaming services	BELIZE CITY	Business Tax and GST	\$ 10,069.96
ELRINGTON & COMPANY LIMITED**	Legal Services	BELIZE CITY	Business Tax and GST	\$ 100,508.90
AHMAD HARMOUCH t/a LOCAL GROCERY STORE	Retail sales in non-specialized stores	SAN PEDRO	Business Tax and GST	\$ 32,761.96
JAIME ANTONIO RIVERA	Contractor	BELIZE CITY	Business Tax	\$ 260,669.01
LAURAJEAN FLOWERS t/a D KRIOL KITCHEN & LOUNGE	Restaurant & Food Mobile Services	BELIZE CITY	Business Tax and GST	\$ 38,958.26
UNION DISTRIBUTION	Retail of pharmaceutical & medical goods	BELIZE CITY	Business Tax	\$ 381,886.95
PLEXAR CAPITAL LLC	Real Estate activities	STANN CREEK	Business Tax and PAYE	\$ 1,364,096.08
CALVERT SUPAUL JR.	Wholesale of food, beverages, and tobacco.	TOLEDO	Business Tax	\$ 154,714.23
RONGMAN LI t/a PLACENCIA STORE PRESTIGE AUTO SALES	Retail sale in non-specialized stores with food, beverages or tobacco predominating.	PLAENCIA	Business Tax and GST	\$ 109,946.17
	Sale of Motor Vehicles	BELIZE CITY	Business Tax and GST	\$ 162,565.66
BELIZE FORMATION SERVICE LIMITED**	Management of Trust, Fund, ICBs and other financial services	BELIZE CITY	Business Tax, PAYE and PAYE Recon	\$ 165,372.78
DEZHENG ZHU t/a YEESY SHOPPING	Retail sale in non-specialized stores	ORANGE WALK	Business Tax, GST, PAYE and PAYE Recon	\$ 78,646.50

** kindly resume communication with BTSD, immediately.

You are hereby directed to contact the Belize Tax Service Department without delay to settle all outstanding tax arrears. Failure to comply, immediately will result in swift legal action under Part VIII of the TAPA, for the full recovery of the amounts owed.

Director General
Belize Tax Service Department

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